

MILITARY

Rivals in religious freedom dispute say rule is unclear
Page 4

WORLD

Russia revises military doctrine to name NATO as chief threat
Page 11

WAR ON TERRORISM

Iraq faces new crisis as the Islamic State forces millions from their homes
Page 6



Winston is in his 'sanctuary' at Rose Bowl » Back page

STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 73, No. 181 ©SS 2014

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2014

平成26年12月29日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Leaving
Afghanistan



HEATH DRUZIN/Stars and Stripes

Gen. John Campbell, commander of the U.S.-led military coalition in Afghanistan, unfurls the flag of Resolute Support, the name of the new military mission in the country that will focus on training and advising Afghan forces. The ceremony on Sunday in Kabul marked the end of the International Security Assistance Force.

NATO troops end one mission in Afghanistan, start another

By HEATH DRUZIN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — The U.S. and NATO formally transitioned Sunday to a new "noncombat mission in a combat environment" whose definition remains as unclear as Afghanistan's future, now that the bulk of foreign forces have left.

During an hourlong ceremony in a drab gymnasium at the headquarters of the military coalition that has battled against insurgents for 13 years, generals hailed the end of a mission while struggling to explain the parameters of what will still be a substantial military operation in Afghanistan.

"Today marks an end of an era and the beginning of a new one," International

'Resolute Support is a noncombat mission, that is the very clear statement. It is a noncombat mission in a combat environment.'

Lt. Gen. Carsten Jacobson
ISAF deputy commander

Security Assistance Force commander Gen. John Campbell said at the ceremony. "Today NATO ends its combat mission." There will still be roughly 11,000 Amer-

ican troops in Afghanistan next year as part of the Resolute Support mission to train, advise and assist Afghanistan's roughly 350,000 security forces. Coalition members will still be able to conduct airstrikes and to defend themselves if engaged by insurgents.

A portion of the U.S. troops will fall outside the NATO training and advising mission, focusing on counterterrorism, force protection and logistics, according to ISAF spokesman Lt. Col. Christopher Belcher. U.S. officials have said troops conducting counterterrorism missions will be able to go after terrorists and "associated forces," a broad term that could include Taliban insurgents deemed to be connected to groups like al-Qaida.

SEE MISSION ON PAGE 2

Jet goes missing with 162 on board

By ALI KOTARUMALOS
AND MARGIE MASON
The Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — An astonishingly tragic year for air travel in Southeast Asia turned worse Sunday when an AirAsia plane carrying 162 people disappeared over stormy Indonesian waters, with no word on its fate despite several hours of searching by air and sea.

AirAsia Flight 8501 vanished in airspace possibly thick with dense storm clouds, strong winds and lightning on its way from

Surabaya, Indonesia, to Singapore. Searchers had to fight against heavy rain.

The Malaysia-based carrier's loss comes on top of the

still-unexplained disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 in March and the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 in July over Ukraine.

At the Surabaya airport, shocked family members pined over the plane's manifest, crying and embracing when they learned the news.

Nias Adityas, a housewife from Surabaya, was overcome with grief when she found the name of her husband, Nanang Priowidodo, on the list.

The 43-year-old tour agent had been taking a family of four on a trip to Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia's Lombok island, and had been happy to get the work.

SEE MISSING ON PAGE 10

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It would be a major failure on the part of everybody involved to have a lot of people die from malaria in the midst of the Ebola epidemic."

— Dr. Bernard Nahlen, deputy director of President Barack Obama's Malaria Initiative, saying a drop in Guinea's malaria cases is likely because people are too scared to go to health facilities and are not getting treated for malaria

See story on Page 12

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. Iran's army testing suicide drone to be used as 'mobile bomb'
2. Cruise missile-spotting balloon rises over Maryland
3. AirAsia plane carrying 162 lost; 3rd Malaysia airline shock
4. Unlike 'Unbroken' bombardier, woman won't forgive Japanese captors
5. Community leaders rally to protect Lewis-McChord workforce

COMING SOON

Health
Fitness
trends
for 2015



TODAY IN STRIPES

- American Roundup 16
- Business 18
- Classified 19, 23
- Comics 13
- Crossword 13
- Faces 17
- Opinion 20-21
- Science & Medicine 15
- Sports 24-32
- Weather 18

WAR/MILITARY



HEATH DRUZIN/Stars and Stripes

Troops march during a ceremony Sunday in Kabul marking a change in the 13-year U.S.-led military mission in Afghanistan.

Mission: Afghan official says help needed 'more than ever'

FROM FRONT PAGE

Belcher said there would be a total of roughly 17,500 foreign troops in Afghanistan next year, some of them U.S. troops performing the non-NATO missions. U.S. and NATO officials have said that about 12,000 to 13,000 troops would be part of Resolute Support.

"Resolute Support is a noncombat mission; that is the very clear statement," ISAF deputy commander Lt. Gen. Carsten Jacobson said after the ceremony. "It is a noncombat mission in a combat environment."

Under President Barack Obama's plan for withdrawal, all U.S. troops are to leave Afghanistan by the end of 2016 except an undetermined number to defend the U.S. Embassy.

Despite officials calling the closing of ISAF the end of the combat mission, the war is still

'An insurgency is not beaten on the battlefield. An insurgency can only be overcome by reconciliation.'

Lt. Gen. Carsten Jacobson
ISAF deputy commander

very much raging in Afghanistan, with civilian and Afghan security force casualties higher than they've ever been since the U.S. invaded the country in 2001. The Taliban is still entrenched and by some measures is as strong as it's ever been.

In a statement Sunday, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg acknowledged that "many challenges remain, and there is much work still to do. The Afghan security forces will continue to need our help as they develop."

At least one ISAF official had

seemingly contradictory views on how the Afghans are expected to bring the insurgency to an end.

"(Afghan forces) have proven to us over the last two years in combat operations that they are capable to defeat the insurgency," Jacobson said.

A few minutes later, he had a different take when asked about the possibility of a long-elusive peace deal between the Afghan government and the Taliban.

"An insurgency is not beaten on the battlefield," he said. "An insurgency can only be overcome

by reconciliation."

What was clear, though, as troops cased the green ISAF flag and replaced it with an almost identical Resolute Support flag, is that despite the foreigners' bold statements, Afghans, who have the most to lose if things go wrong, are nervous about the NATO drawdown.

In a speech that was part thank-you and part plea for continued help, Mohammad Hanif Atmar, national security adviser to President Ashraf Ghani, praised his country's security forces but called for the West's "strategic patience."

"We are not yet able to do everything alone," he cautioned. "We don't want or expect that you will support us forever. However, we need your support more than ever."

druzin.heath@stripes.com
Twitter: @Druzin_Stripes

**Stay connected to
your military community,
no matter how far you are from home.**

News, information and more — 24/7

stripes.com STARS AND STRIPES



WAR/MILITARY



Risking life for a livelihood

Afghan police are leading the fight against insurgents at a deadly cost

BY LYNNE O'DONNELL

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — When brothers Amir and Moshia Jan joined Afghanistan's police two years ago, they believed their patriotic duty was more important than obeying their father, who did not want his only sons joining the ranks of a police force on the front lines of the war against the Taliban.

The father's worst fears came true earlier this year, when gunmen on a motorcycle opened fire on the two brothers as they patrolled the streets of the one-time Taliban capital, Kandahar.

"Two Taliban on a motorcycle started firing at us," said Amir, 25. "My brother was shot dead on the spot." Moshia was 23 years old.

As U.S. and international combat troops leave Afghanistan after more than 13 years fighting the Taliban, Afghan policemen are dying in record numbers as they perform dangerous tasks usually reserved for the military, according to the head of the European-funded mission to train the police force.

Afghanistan's war is as hot as it has

been since the U.S.-led invasion following the Sept. 11 attacks overthrew the Taliban. The international combat mission ends on Dec. 31, leaving the Afghan security forces in charge after leading the fight since the middle of last year.

Some 5,000 members of Afghanistan's security forces — army, police and armed rural defense units — have died this year fighting the Taliban, according to Karl Ake Roghe, the outgoing head of EUPOL, the European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan.

"The police have lost something like 3,200 this year, so most of the casualties belong to the Afghan National Police," Roghe, who has led the mission for 2½ years, told The Associated Press. By comparison, some 3,500 foreign forces, including at least 2,210 American soldiers, have been killed in the 13 years since the war began.

"This is the main problem for Afghanistan — how they are dividing the responsibilities for fighting the insurgency," he said. "This should be a task for the Afghan National Army, not the police. Currently, it belongs to the police, and the main part of the fight is done by the police."

Gen. Joseph Anderson, second in command of the NATO combat mission until it officially ended earlier this month, described the Afghan losses as "unsustainable."

Afghanistan has 157,000 police in a force created, trained and funded by the European Union. Almost every day, Afghan authorities report the deaths of policemen in Taliban assaults on checkpoints around rural towns and on the outskirts of larger cities.

The police receive little backup from the army and do not have air support, medical evacuation or dedicated hospitals that could help reduce deaths, Roghe said.

"They are doing this totally alone and, of course, they are not properly equipped for this task," he said.

Many in the impoverished country join the police out of desperation. A policeman earns \$200 a month, and the family continues to receive that amount if he is killed in the line of duty, as well as a one-time compensation payment of three times that amount. Officers get around \$300 a month.

But it's an increasingly risky choice. As international forces have left, they have taken with them air support

— helicopters and jets — that allowed ground troops to take the fight to the Taliban. In response, the insurgents have swept into populated areas, where the police are ill-equipped to repel them and where women and children are increasingly caught in the crossfire.

Roghe said the deterioration in security since the Afghans took the lead had been expected and will continue for some years.

"ISAF (International Security Assistance Force) drawing down and the Afghans more exposed — this will create some space for the insurgency," he said.

Nevertheless, he said the force is sustainable. "We don't see that they are going to be overrun; we don't think we will see here in Afghanistan what we have seen in Iraq," he said, referring to the lightning advance of the Islamic State extremist group across much of northern and western Iraq this year.

"The Afghan security forces are much more stable," he said. "But the cost will be enormous, and it will take a long time, the next five years, until they will be more efficient and better equipped so they can do the fight with less cost."



Top left: Afghan police commanders honor a captain after his graduation ceremony at a police training center in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Dec. 21. More than 205 national police captains graduated after a two-month training program. Top right: Officers stand watch near the French Cultural Center, which was targeted by a suicide attacker in Kabul earlier this month. Above: Police inspect the site of another suicide attack in the capital.

MILITARY

Rivals in religious freedom dispute say rule is unclear

By CHRIS CARROLL

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Faith in Jesus might not be your solution, an Army Ranger chaplain told members of the 5th Ranger Training Battalion in a mandatory suicide prevention briefing last month, but that's what helped him through his struggle with depression.

The presentation prompted a sharply worded letter from the chaplain's commander and rekindled a long-running dispute over whether the expression — and the promotion — of religious faith must remain private in the U.S. military or whether it is allowable on duty.

Nearly a year after the Department of Defense issued a heavily revised religious expression policy that advocates said would bring a new level of religious freedom, the dispute at Fort Benning, Ga., is evidence that the new wording hasn't done away with old disputes. The fight over what constitutes free exercise and what qualifies as government-imposed religion remains as heated as ever.

The chaplain, Capt. Joe Lawhorn, also presented non-religious ways to combat the military suicide epidemic at the session, held off base near Camp Merrill, Ga., on Nov. 20. When the men filed out, they carried handouts prepared by the former enlisted soldier, who attended seminary at Liberty University, a conservative Christian institution founded by televangelist Jerry Falwell.

One side of the handout featured secular suicide-prevention tips. The other side presented Christianity as the answer.

"Enduring and overcoming distress begins by maintaining your integrity of connectedness with God," the handout said. "Invite Jesus into whatever you're feeling. Remember, he will never let you down (Romans 8:1)."

A member of the battalion, a staff sergeant who asked to remain anonymous to avoid potential retaliation, said he was shocked by what he'd heard and read. The atheist infantryman, who said it's possible to work through trauma without religion, said the briefing was an affront to soldiers of other faiths or no faith.

"It just seemed entirely inappropriate for something that's

not supposed to be a religious gathering," he said. "The part about opening oneself to Jesus — it sounds like they're saying if someone doesn't believe, they can't be healed."

After the incident was publicized by the Military Association of Atheists and Freethinkers advocacy group, Fort Benning's command warned the chaplain to cool the religious content in mandatory briefings.

In response, Lawhorn's attorney, Michael Berry — of the Liberty Institute, a competing advocacy group — cited the wording in the new policy in a letter demanding that the Army explicitly approve religious content in the chaplain's briefings.

"The Army has not and cannot point to any law or regulation Chaplain Lawhorn violated," Berry, senior counsel and director of military affairs for the organization, told Stars and Stripes. "On the contrary, federal law and military regulations permit and protect religious expression by servicemembers."

Guidance needed

Both sides agree on one point: There's a "tsunami of confusion" over what the policy says.

That's the phrase used last month in Congressional testimony by Military Religious Freedom Foundation president Mike Weinstein, a former Air Force lawyer who fights to prevent commanders from injecting mandatory religion into military life and work.

The phrase was endorsed in the same hearing by a frequent opponent, Ron Crews, a retired Army chaplain who heads the Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty. Crews' group advocates for chaplains, frequently evangelical Christians, who want to talk freely about their faith.

Each side charges the other with misrepresenting the new policy, but they agree that the DOD needs to do much more to establish what it all means.

"There's an incredible lack of education," Weinstein said, advocating strict discipline and courts-martial as a teaching tool as a response for those who bring religion into the military workplace.

Berry, who testified in the same

hearing last month as Weinstein and Crews, said the DOD needs to clearly explain how the revised policy authorizes actions — like Lawhorn's anti-suicide briefing.

Other controversial policy changes have been accompanied by guidance on implementation, Berry said.

"When 'don't ask, don't tell' in the military was repealed, they didn't just tell folks, 'OK, it's been repealed, carry on with your lives,'" Berry said. "Instead, there was a program of training to ensure it was adequately understood. I think that is a pretty wise approach to take, and I think something similar should be implemented here."

The current DOD policy on religion was released in January in response to a requirement from Congress in the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. According to the federal law, "the Armed Forces shall accommodate individual expressions of belief" as much as possible.

When the policy was released, the main focus of attention was on free exercise of religion for minorities, who became able to more easily obtain exceptions to policy to wear beards or articles of clothing that violate military regulations.

But the policy doesn't just cover minorities who follow traditional practices, including Sikhs, Jews and Muslims. It extends the prospect of free religious expression to all, including the military's Christian majority.

According to the key section, "unless it could have an adverse impact on military readiness, unit cohesion, and good order and discipline, the Military Department will accommodate individual expressions of sincerely held beliefs."

For supporters of strict separation of church and state, the "adverse impact" exception of the law is key; any dissension in the ranks as a result of religious grudges or discord can only hurt the readiness of the unit.

"The bottom line is, we have to make sure our military is tough enough to be ready to kill the enemies of our country," Weinstein said. Because of that imperative, the government has a compelling interest in limiting the kind of untrammelled religious expression civilians enjoy in order to main-



Stars and Stripes

Jason Torpy, right, president of the Military Association of Atheists and Freethinkers, speaks in 2008 about problems with harassment from military supervisors. Torpy has aired a complaint by an anonymous soldier at Fort Benning, Ga., about religious content in a mandatory suicide-prevention briefing last month.

tain strong and unified military units, he said.

But hypothetical damage to unit morale, discipline or readiness doesn't constitute "compelling interest" under the law for the government to limit religious speech, Berry said.

"When we're actually court-martialing someone for prejudicing good order and discipline, it requires direct evidence — someone to actually get on the stand and demonstrate an effect," said Berry, who served as an attorney in the Marine Corps. "Otherwise, it's all speculation and someone playing worst-case scenario."

Opposite views

Despite the new policy, which appears to give greater protection to religious freedom, Berry said there is a heightened level of hostility to religious rights in today's military.

Jason Torpy, president of the Military Association of Atheists and Freethinkers, said the opposite — that there is a heightened sense among some religious people that federal law and the new DOD policy give them free rein to proselytize.

"If evangelicals in Congress want military chaplains to enforce Christianity in their official duties, then they are getting their wish," he said in a statement. "But if we all seek religious liberty and the mental health of our military men and women, then here should be swift action against that chaplain, his endorsing agency, and the battalion commander who participated in this wanton abuse of their military authority."

After Torpy's airing of the anonymous soldier's complaint, Fort Benning's command took action. Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade commander Col. David G. Fivcoart issued a "letter of concern" to Lawhorn

in late November that accused him of violating Army policies on religious expression and equal opportunity.

When Berry pushed back on Lawhorn's behalf, Fivcoart revised the letter to remove the policy citations, but left in place an order to "create an environment of tolerance and understanding."

Then, earlier this month, Maj. Gen. Scott Miller, commander of Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, pointed out that the letter issued to Lawhorn is not an official punishment but an attempt at guidance that is removed from a soldier's file upon reassignment.

In declining to remove the letter, Miller stopped just short of explicitly criticizing Lawhorn but pointed out what is expected of a chaplain when carrying out duties like suicide-prevention training.

"Their role is not to provide religious instruction during non-religious mandatory training classes," he wrote in a statement released to the media. "Chaplains may appropriately share their personal experiences, but any religious information given by a Chaplain to a military formation should be limited to an orientation of what religious services and facilities are available and how to contact Chaplains of specific faiths."

Berry said Lawhorn's retelling of his experience with depression, and how faith pulled him through, was appropriate to the situation. It's the Army that enshrines "spiritual fitness" as one of the elements of overall soldier fitness, he said, and sends chaplains to conduct mandatory training.

"If you have a problem with what Chaplain Lawhorn has done," Berry said, "I would submit you have a problem with the Army, not with Chaplain Lawhorn."

carroll.chris@starsandstripes.com
Twitter: @ChrisCarroll

STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us, wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
LETTERS@STARSANDSTRIPES.COM

EUROPE

ADVERTISING

KATHRYN PETERSON
peterston.kathryn@starsandstripes.com
+49 (0) 173 313 6411

CIRCULATION

RAW ROWELL
rowell.van@starsandstripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9111 DSN 314.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST

ADVERTISING

KATHRYN PETERSON
peterston.kathryn@starsandstripes.com
+49 (0) 173 313 6411

CIRCULATION

ROBERT REISMANN
reismann.robert@starsandstripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9150 DSN 314.583.9150

PACIFIC

ADVERTISING

YUKO SAITO
CustomerHelp@StarsandStripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

CIRCULATION

MARI MATSUMOTO
CustomerHelp@StarsandStripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3171 DSN 315.229.3171

WAR ON TERRORISM

US, Iran aligned vs. Islamic State — for now

By MISSY RYAN
AND LOVEDAY MORRIS
The Washington Post

Iranian military involvement has dramatically increased in Iraq during the past year as Tehran has delivered desperately needed aid to Baghdad in its fight against Islamic State militants, U.S., Iraqi and Iranian sources say. In the eyes of Obama administration officials, equally concerned about the rise of the brutal Islamist group, that's an acceptable role — for now.

Yet American officials remain apprehensive about the potential for renewed friction with Iran as U.S. troops return to a limited mission in Iraq, either directly or via Iranian-backed militias that once attacked U.S. personnel on a regular basis.

A senior Iranian cleric with close ties to Tehran's leadership, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss security matters, said that since the Islamic State captured much of northern Iraq in June, Iran has sent more than 1,000 military advisers to Iraq as well as elite units, and has conducted airstrikes and has spent more than \$1 billion on military aid.

"The areas that have been lib-

erated from Daesh have been thanks to Iran's advice, command, leaders and support," the cleric said, using the Arabic acronym for the group.

At the same time, Iraq's Shiite-led government is increasingly reliant on the powerful militias and a massive Shiite volunteer force, which together may now equal the size of Iraq's security forces.

Although the Obama administration says it is not coordinating directly with Iran, the two nations' arm's-length alliance against the Islamic State is an uncomfortable reality. That's not only because some of the militia shock troops who have proved effective in fighting the Islamic State battled U.S. forces during the 2003-11 war there, but also because in Syria, Iran continues to support President Bashar Assad, whom the U.S. would like to see toppled. U.S. diplomats, meanwhile, are pushing ahead with negotiations to reach a deal on Iran's nuclear program to prevent the country from developing a nuclear weapon.

Alli Khedery, who advised several U.S. ambassadors in Iraq, said the tensions that fueled a U.S.-Iran confrontation in Iraq after 2003 are currently masked



RAKQA MEDIA CENTER OF THE ISLAMIC STATE GROUP/AP

Fighters from the Islamic State group parade in June in Raqqa, northern Syria. The U.S. and Iran are both fighting the Islamic State.

by the shared desire to defeat the Islamic State, also known as ISIS.

"ISIS will be defeated," said Khedery, who runs a strategic consulting firm in Dubai. "The problem is that afterwards, there will still be a dozen militias, hardened by decades of battle experience, funded by Iraqi oil and commanded or at least strongly influenced by [Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps]. And they will be the last ones standing."

While the departure of U.S.

troops in 2011 provided space for Iran to expand its influence in Iraq, Tehran's support for paramilitary groups has intensified since the appearance of the Sunni militant group that Iran's Shiite leaders see as a serious threat to their interests. Combat troops from the Quds Force, a unit of the Revolutionary Guard Corps, now travel to Iraq "from time to time for specific operations with coordination with the Kurdish and Iraqi governments," the cleric said.

Iranian commander is killed in Iraq

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's Revolutionary Guard says one of its senior commanders was killed during a battle against the Islamic State extremist group in Iraq.

The Guard said in an on-line statement Sunday that Brig. Gen. Hamid Tagavi was "martyred while performing his advisory mission to confront ISIS terrorists in Samarra."

Tagavi is believed to be the highest-ranking Iranian military officer to have been killed in Iraq while battling the Islamic State group, which captured large parts of northern and western Iraq earlier this year.

The Guard said Tagavi was assisting Iraqi troops and Shiite volunteers defending Samarra, a city north of Baghdad which is home to a major Shiite shrine. It said a funeral procession will be held in Tehran on Monday.

From The Associated Press

Entire families answering Islamic State's call

By KEVIN SULLIVAN
AND KARLA ADAM
The Washington Post

LONDON — Last month in Syria, Siham and Dhar stood in front of a banged-up yellow pickup truck, holding an assault rifle in his right hand and cradling his newborn son with his left.

Dhar's first four children had been born in London, his native city, but his new baby, wrapped in a fuzzy, brown onesie, was born in territory controlled by the Islamic State.

Someone snapped a photo of Dhar, 31, and he proudly tweeted it out as proof that he, his wife, Aisha, and their children had fled Dhar and were now living in what a militant council in an Islamic caliphate that will one day reign over the world.

The arrival of the Dhar family in Syria last month represents a key strategic goal of the Islamic State: to build not just an army but a society. The group has vowed to create a nation ruled by the Islamic sharia law, and its leaders and online recruiters have encouraged doctors, nurses, lawyers, engineers and accountants to join them in building the institutions of a new holy land.

Entire families — fathers, mothers and children — have answered that call in numbers that have surprised and alarmed analysts who study the extremist group.

"These families believe they are doing the right thing for their children," said Melanie Smith, a research associate at the King's College International Center for

the Study of Radicalization in London. "They think they are taking them to a kind of utopia."

Back in London, Dhar's younger sister, Konika Dhar, 27, said she was heartbroken when she saw the Twitter photo on her phone. Her brother was now an armed jihadi calling himself Abu Rumaysah who fled to Syria with his family while he was on bail in Britain after being arrested on terrorism-related charges. In his caustic tweets from Syria, he taunted the U.K.'s "shoddy security system" that had allowed him to jump bail.

But Konika Dhar still thought of her brother as "Sid," the stylish British kid who gelled his hair, dated girls, listened to Nirvana and Linkin Park, rooted for the Arsenal soccer team, and loved to watch American action movies.

"I think he has actually forgotten Siddhartha Dhar, and he has become this other person," she said. "I just want my brother to know it doesn't have to be this way. The reality doesn't have to leave his life. I really miss the children; I can't imagine not seeing them again."

Unlike al-Qaida, which operates in many countries but is a stateless army, the Islamic State controls territory that it has taken by force in Iraq and Syria. To create the Islamist society it envisions, the group has gone to great lengths to take over existing schools, hospitals and playgrounds, or to build those and other institutions of daily family life.

"The more they are successful at creating a whole new society,

the more they are able to attract entire families," said Mia Bloom, a professor of security studies at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell who has written extensively about women and terrorism. "It's almost like the American dream, but the Islamic State's version of it."

In the Syrian city of Raqqa, the group's main stronghold, the extremists have established a clinic for pregnant women run by a female gynecologist trained in Britain. Boys attend school, studying almost exclusively religion, until they are 14, when they are expected to start fighting, Smith said. Girls stay in school until they are 18; their instruction is about the Koran and sharia law, as well as learning how to dress, keep house, cook, clean and care for men, all according to a strict Islamic code.

Bloom said the Islamic State also appeals to women by providing electricity, food and a salary of up to \$1,100 per month — a huge sum in Syria — for each fighter's family. The largesse is funded with money looted from banks, oil

smuggling, kidnappings for ransom, and the extortion of truckers and others who cross Islamic State territory.

In Raqqa, once a city of more than 200,000 people, the militants have kicked locals out of their homes and have doled out those houses as rewards to fighters and their families, many of whom come from impoverished backgrounds.

"The other jihadi groups promise you all these wonderful things in the afterlife," Bloom said. "The Islamic State promises to give you stuff in the current life and the afterlife, so you don't have to wait to enjoy all your rewards."

Analysts estimate that at least 15,000 people have moved to the Islamic State territories, including several thousand, such as Dhar, from Western countries. While it is impossible to know how many families have joined, Bloom said the majority are probably from Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and other Arab nations that have sent the most fighters to Syria.

The United Nations has docu-

mented extreme brutality toward women by Islamic State radicals, including reports of women, particularly from minority groups, being stoned to death or sold into prostitution or sexual slavery for their fathers.

But the Islamic State uses family imagery in its aggressive and highly polished online recruiting on social media, including videos showing fighters pushing children on swings and passing out toys, and children playing on bouncy castles and bumper cars, riding ponies, and eating pink cotton candy.

Those images are designed to reassure mothers that their children will be safe in a place wrecked by fighting and regular bombing by the United States and its allies.

However, recent reports from Syria and Iraq suggest that the Islamic State's propaganda about its public services does not match reality on the ground and that people are enduring painful shortages of electricity, food, medicine and clean water.

INJURED ?

CVILIAN WORKERS
(INCLUDING NON-US CITIZENS)

KNOW AND PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS
D.B.A./N.A.F. ATTORNEYS

www.injuredoverseas.com

U.S. TOLL FREE 888-732-7425

LAO OFFICES OF BARNETT & LERNER, P.A.

FREE CONSULTATION

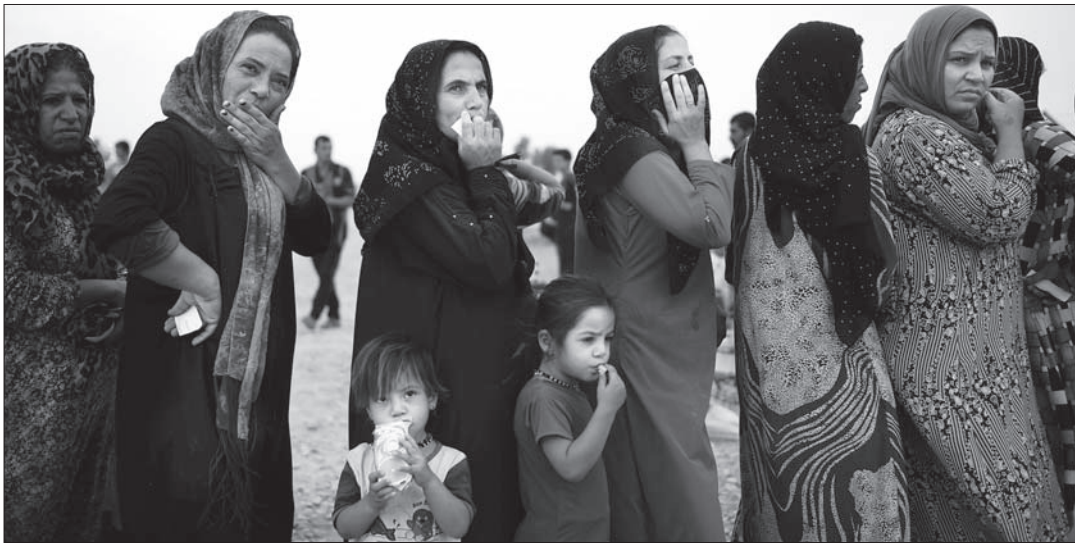
YES

Click today...cash today...
really on www.militaryloans.com



"We love to say yes"

WAR ON TERRORISM



Photos for The Washington Post by Ayman Oghanna

Internally displaced Iraqis from Mosul wait in line to receive supplies in the Bakhira refugee camp in Iraq's northern Kurdistan region. More than 1.3 million Iraqis have been displaced this year into a region that is already crushed under the weight of a crippling Syrian refugee crisis.

Iraqis struggling amid war refugee crisis

More than 2 million are displaced by Islamic State's deadly advance

By LOVEDAY MORRIS

The Washington Post

IRBIL, Iraq — For three years, he worked closely with U.S. forces in Iraq. Now Ammar Younes sits in his frigid tent in a camp in Iraq's Kurdistan region, using a scalpel to gouge pieces of shrapnel out of his mangled legs as his young children look on.

A trainer in the Iraqi army, the 34-year-old was wounded when Islamic State extremists placed a bomb under his car in Mosul in June, just a week before the northern city fell to the militants.

He was forced to flee his hospital bed, still wearing his medical gown, when the city was overrun. Younes is one of more than 2 million Iraqis uprooted this year by the advance of the Islamic State, an exodus that has compounded this country's massive displacement crisis.

About 1.7 million Iraqis fled their homes for other parts of the country from 2006 to 2008, the worst days of sectarian conflict after the U.S. invasion of 2003. Most have yet to return to their homes. Meanwhile, the war in neighboring Syria has spawned more than 3.2 million refugees, some of whom have sought shelter in Iraq.

The speed and scale of the latest Iraq crisis have stunned communities, international humanitarian

organizations and the Iraqi government, which is poorly equipped to help displaced people as it fights a war against Islamist militants and struggles to balance its books amid diving oil prices. Adding to the misery of the displaced, the winter has set in, sending temperatures below freezing.

Almost half of the Iraqis fleeing their communities this year have crowded into Iraqi Kurdistan, already home to more than 200,000 Syrian refugees.

With resources scarce, a scramble for survival is underway. The displaced say their sects, ethnicities and whether they have crossed an international border and legally qualify as refugees can determine their level of access to the scant aid available.

Younes has spent more than \$2,000 on surgeries to remove shrapnel from his legs. But he said he's struggling to afford further care and free clinics lack the specialized treatment he needs.

He complained that his plight is made worse by his being a Sunni Arab, like the Islamic State fighters, and thus deemed a security risk. He said he sometimes finds it difficult to get permission to leave the camp, even for medical treatment.

"We are at the bottom of the pile," he said. "We are blamed for helping the terrorists, but we are the ones who have suffered most



Displaced Iraqi Yazidi families shelter in a half-constructed shell of a building outside the northern Iraqi city of Duhok.

from them."

Younes said he had been injured five times by the extremists, including once when he was shot as he drove to work on a U.S. Army base, where he was a trainer for Iraqi officers. He said he never considered applying for a visa to go to the U.S. and still does not want to leave his country.

Some of the displaced cannot make it into the semiautonomous Kurdistan region. Aid agencies say the Kurdish authorities have tightened entry, particularly for Sunni Arabs, since a suicide bombing killed five people in Irbil last month, a rare event in that part of Iraq. Kurdish officials claim the borders are open.

Those fleeing Mosul say checkpoints run by the Iraqi army or Shiite militias near Baghdad and Shiite provinces of the south also turn them away, leaving them with nowhere to run.

A Sunni Arab medical student from Mosul, who declined to give his name out of concern for his safety, spoke of fleeing the city this month only to be turned away at a checkpoint controlled by Kurdish peshmerga security forces near the city of Kirkuk. He decided to return home, despite fearing that he would be targeted by Islamic State militants for having left.

In some ways, Younes is one of the lucky ones, able to find a space

on the edge of Irbil in a United Nations-administered camp that is home to 3,100 displaced people. Still, even there, the camp management was scrambling in mid-December to finish preparations for winter — distributing kerosene and extra plastic sheeting.

U.N. officials acknowledge that the assistance is insufficient. The U.N. response plan for displaced Iraqis remains only 31 percent funded, while the World Food Program has stopped procuring supplies for the displaced because of a lack of money. That means the distribution of boxes of food to families, the only assistance many get, will end by February unless emergency funding is found.

"It's not that we can do more with less; it's that we don't have anything and the needs on the ground are immense," said Barbara Manzi, the outgoing Iraq representative for the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, which is overseeing the organization's response to the displacement crisis.

With so little relief available, families turn wherever they can for help. Displaced Christians get some additional assistance from local churches, but their independently administered camps are poorly equipped for winter.

"Whatever the church has, they give us — carpets, blankets, heaters, shampoo," said Raja Mati, 35, who lives with 11 members of her extended family in a small plastic cabin with a tarpaulin roof erected in an unfinished Irbil shopping mall. "Still, life is so hard."

NATION

Decisions after 9/11 led to a slow, steady Secret Service decline

By CAROL D. LEONNIG
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Secret Service began struggling to carry out its most basic duties after Congress and the George W. Bush administration expanded the elite law enforcement agency's mission in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

According to government documents and interviews with dozens of current and former officials, the recent string of security lapses at the White House resulted from a combination of tight budgets, bureaucratic battles and rapidly growing demands on the agency that have persisted through the Bush and Obama administrations in the 13 years since the attacks. At the same time, the Secret Service was hit by a wave of early retirements that eliminated a generation of experienced staff members and left the agency in a weakened state just as its duties were growing.

The agency assumed new responsibilities monitoring crowds at an increasing number of major sporting events and other large gatherings seen as potential targets for terrorists. A new anti-terrorism law gave the agency a leading role in tracking cyber-threats against U.S. financial systems. And Bush expanded the scope of the agency's around-the-clock protection to include the president's and vice president's extended family — an expansion that has been largely maintained under President Barack Obama.

Where the Secret Service had been a part of the Treasury Department for more than a century, its post-9/11 transfer to the sprawling new Department of Homeland Security suddenly forced it to compete for money and attention with bigger and higher-profile agencies focused on immigration and airport security.

The changes set in motion during that critical period after 2001 led to a slow, steady slide in quality, leaving an agency that, according to a DHS report released on Dec. 18, is "stretched to and, in many cases, beyond its limits."

"We are not the Super Bowl team we once were," Dan Emmett, a former Secret Service supervisor, said in a recent interview with The Washington Post.

A zero-error rate

When the attacks came in 2001, the Secret Service was seen as a near-invincible force, for its aura of invincibility. Its stoic agents with their earpieces and dark sunglasses were immortalized in Hollywood movies, while the agency boasted a zero-error rate after the lessons learned from the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963 and the shooting of President Ronald Reagan in 1981.

Immediately after the attacks, temporary details were mobilized for Bush's extended family, including his grand siblings. Later, with the country at war in Afghani-

stan, the agency provided details for Vice President Dick Cheney's grandchildren in addition to those for his adult daughters.

The details create an added strain, as the service must supply a team of anywhere from two to six agents to protect a person, usually with two to three rotating shifts per day. But resources remained largely flat, forcing agents to work longer hours and spend extended stretches on the road. For years, hard work helped keep the agency's turmoil from showing.

Stretched thin

DHS officials were focused on addressing high-profile security concerns, and hundreds of millions of dollars were directed to anti-terrorism programs. But the Secret Service's mission did not engender the same sense of urgency, according to people familiar with internal deliberations.

Andrew Card, the White House chief of staff at the time, said he intervened several times to fight off proposed cuts to the Secret Service's budget. But Congress and DHS officials did not always view some of the agency's initiatives as a top priority, he said.

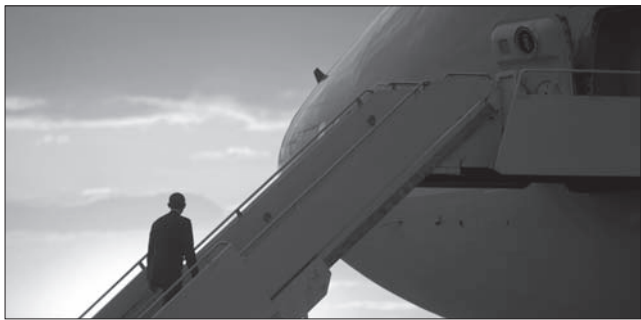
Chris Cumiskey, a former Obama DHS official who retired this past fall, said he saw the Secret Service struggle and suffer financially — from "organizational turmoil" stemming from its presence in DHS.

The election of Obama in 2008 brought new challenges, as the agency saw an escalation of threats against the country's first black president.

As budget battles began to dominate Washington after the tea-party wave of 2010 and lawmakers and the Obama administration pursued ways to slash the deficit, the Secret Service suffered cuts along with other federal agencies. The service was then forced to deal with what became public embarrassments. It failed to properly investigate a 2011 shooting targeting the White House, and agents were recalled from a 2012 summit that Obama attended in Colombia after they were caught hiring prostitutes.

The toll on the Uniformed Division, the arm of the Secret Service that protects the White House complex, was cited as a major problem in the DHS report released this month. The panel that conducted the review called for adding 200 officers. It also assailed the Secret Service's leadership for not knowing the actual cost for properly protecting the president and for instead making ballpark guesses on how much Congress would approve. Rep. Bennie Thompson, of Mississippi, the ranking Democrat on the House Homeland Security Committee, said in an interview that he was disturbed by the service's shoestring approach.

"You feel the commander in chief deserves the best security protocols known to man," he said. "There's no skimping, there's no talk about people working a lot of overtime, all this foolishness."



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVALS/AP

President Barack Obama boards Air Force One at Yangon International Airport in Yangon, Myanmar, on Nov. 14.

Yes-we-can president now Yes-we-can twilight of maybes

By JULIE PACE
AND NANCY BENAC
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It was supposed to be a joke. "Are you still president?" comedian Stephen Colbert asked Barack Obama earlier this month.

But the question seemed to speak to growing weariness with the president and skepticism that anything will change in Washington during his final two years in office. Democrats already are looking for Obama's potential successors. Emboldened Republicans are trying to push aside his agenda in favor of their own.

At times this year, Obama seemed ready to move on as well. He rebelled against the White House security "bubble," telling his Secret Service detail to give him more space. He chafed at being sidelined by his party during midterm elections and having to adjust his agenda to fit the political interests of vulnerable Democrats who lost anyway.

Yet the election that was a disaster for the president's party may have had a rejuvenating effect on Obama. The morning after the midterms, Obama told senior aides, "If I see you moaning, you will answer to me."

People close to Obama say he is energized at not having to worry about helping — or hurting — Democrats in another congressional election on his watch. He has become more comfortable with his executive powers, moving unilaterally on immigration, Internet neutrality and climate change in the last two months. And he sees legacy-building opportunities on the international stage, from an elusive nuclear deal with Iran to normalizing relations with Cuba after a half-century freeze.

Still, pillars of Obama's second-term agenda — gun control, raising the federal minimum wage, universal preschool — seem des-

tined to stand unfulfilled. Wrapping up the Iraq and Afghanistan wars isn't turning out to be nearly the tidy success story Obama once envisioned. Even supporters say one of the president's top remaining priorities may have to be simply preventing Republicans from dismantling his earlier accomplishments, including the health care law.

The yes-we-can man is entering a twilight of maybes, his presidency still driven by high ambitions, but his power to achieve them running out.

Before the midterm election results arrived, Obama's advisers say, the president realized he would finish his presidency with Republicans running Capitol Hill. He concluded the status quo would mean more gridlock.

Indeed, 2014 had been another year of fits and starts for a White House that has struggled to find its footing in Obama's second term.

The feeble HealthCare.gov website stabilized, but scandal enveloped the Department of Veterans Affairs. Syria got rid of its chemical weapons, but a violent extremist group pulled the U.S. back into military conflict in the Middle East. The unemployment rate fell, but so did Obama's approval ratings — to the lowest levels of his presidency.

Nearly two dozen White House officials, former Obama aides,

presidential historians and political analysts discussed Obama's standing as he closes his sixth year in office, some on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss their conversations with the president or his top advisers.

For much of the year, Obama appeared to struggle with the realization that his political standing had slipped.

He publicly complained about criticism of his foreign policy by pundits in Washington and New York. Despite pleas from his party to stay out of November's elections, he said his policies were indeed on the ballot. He desperately looked for ways to break free of the confines of the White House.

Obama is realistically optimistic about what he can get done over the next two years, advisers say. He wants to try tax reform and sees opportunities to accelerate growth and job creation with the economy on firmer footing. Aides have reached out to historians and political scientists to solicit ideas for Obama's next State of the Union address.

Yet the president is forging ahead as something of an isolated figure. Congressional Democrats are increasingly willing to go against him, and in the West Wing, Obama's tight inner circle of loyal advisers keeps shrinking.

☎ 0621 72 92 0 * 1STOP Travel Agency
Fly Now - Pay Later

US FLIGHTS WHY PAY MORE? www.abctravel.de/stripes

Atlanta	€ 489	Los Angeles	€ 542
Boston	€ 424	Las Vegas	€ 532
Charlotte	€ 432	Miami	€ 450
Chicago	€ 404	New York	€ 369
Dallas	€ 482	San Francisco	€ 550
Seattle	€ 542	Washington	€ 452

Flights from: 20 DEC 2014 - 14 APR 2015
Departure from/to Germany RT. We accept US \$
Taxes included. Prices are based on availability.

NATION

Slain NY officer's service tense

By JONATHAN LEMIRE
AND MIKE BALSAMO
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Thousands of police officers, state troopers, sheriff's deputies and others from law enforcement agencies big and small across the U.S. gathered at the New York City funeral of a slain officer killed with his partner in a brazen daytime ambush a week ago.

The sea of blue uniforms stretched for blocks outside the Christ Tabernacle Church in Queens on Saturday as police helicopters flew above in a missing-man formation and Officer Rafael Ramos' body was carried by pallbearers in a casket draped in the New York Police Department flag. The NYPD estimates more than 20,000 officers attended.

"When an assassin's bullet targeted two officers, it targeted this city and it touched the soul of an entire nation," Vice President Joe Biden said in his eulogy.

But the somber day, reminiscent of the bond New Yorkers shared after the Sept. 11 attacks and Superstorm Sandy, was not without tension.

During the eulogy, a few hundred officers outside the church turned away from giant screens showing New York Mayor Bill de Blasio, who has been harshly criticized by New York police union officials as a contributor to a climate of mistrust that preceded the killings of Ramos and his partner, Wenjian Liu.

Sgt. Myron Joseph, of the New Rochelle Police Department, said he and fellow officers turned their backs spontaneously to "support our brothers in the NYPD."

In a statement, de Blasio's



Pallbearers carry the casket of New York City police officer Rafael Ramos following funeral services at Christ Tabernacle Church in Queens on Saturday.

JULIO CORTEZ/AP

spokesman said: "The Ramos and Liu families, our police department and our city are dealing with an unconscionable tragedy. Our sole focus is unifying this city and honoring the lives of our two police officers."

In his eulogy, the mayor said hearts citywide were broken after the Dec. 20 shootings.

Police Commissioner William Bratton, who said Ramos and Liu were targeted because they wore a uniform, also said it was "very inappropriate" for police officers to turn their backs to video

screens showing de Blasio. Bratton defended the mayor Sunday on CBS' "Face the Nation." He said de Blasio is "totally supportive" of officers and had expanded their budget to make them safer.

On Friday Bratton made Ramos — who was studying to become a pastor and kept Bible study books in his locker — an honorary chaplain of his Brooklyn precinct.

Police union officials in contentious contract negotiations with the city have faulted de Blasio for showing sympathy to protesters angry over the police deaths of

Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo., and Eric Garner on New York's Staten Island. At a hospital after the officers' slayings, the police union's president, Patrick Lynch, and others turned their backs on de Blasio. Lynch said the mayor had "blood on his hands."

After the funeral, Lynch and de Blasio exchanged nods as they exited the church. Lynch refused to answer reporters' questions about officers turning their backs.

Ramos, a married father of two, was buried at Cypress Hills Cemetery after the service.

'Trash' talk gets Ferguson spokesman punished

By JAVIER PANZAR
Los Angeles Times

A Ferguson, Mo., police spokesman has been put on unpaid leave after initially denying, then admitting that he referred to a memorial for Michael Brown as a "pile of trash" to a Washington Post reporter.

Post reporter Jose A. DelReal called Officer Timothy Zoll, the Ferguson Police Department's public relations officer, after some residents claimed a motorist had intentionally driven a car through a memorial to the 18-year-old who was shot and killed by a Ferguson police officer in August.

"I don't know that a crime has occurred," Zoll told DelReal on Friday. "But a pile of trash in the middle of the street? The Washington Post is making a call over this?"

Zoll initially denied making the statement but later admitted to the remarks and to misleading his superiors when confronted on the issue, the city said in a statement Saturday night.

The memorial, a collection of flowers, stuffed animals, balloons and other objects, took shape on Canfield Road, where Brown was shot. Residents have been creating a new one on the same spot.

Zoll is being placed on unpaid leave while disciplinary proceedings begin, according to the statement.

"The City of Ferguson wants to emphasize that negative remarks about the Michael Brown memorial do not reflect the feelings of the Ferguson Police Department and are in direct contradiction to the efforts of city officials to relocate the memorial to a more secure location," the statement reads. The department noted that even after the officer's initial denial, it "continued the investigation until the truth was discovered."

Before Saturday's statement, Jeff Small, a spokesman for the city, told The St. Louis Post-Dispatch that Zoll had been misquoted and denied questioning why The Washington Post reporter made the call.

DeReal stuck by his story, tweeting Friday afternoon: "The department told The St. Louis Post-Dispatch that the quote is a misunderstanding. The quote is accurate."

Ariz. police officer killed by suspect

The Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — A 24-year-old police officer and a suspect died after a shootout Saturday afternoon.

Officer Tyler J. Stewart, 24, died at Flagstaff Medical Center after he was shot by a man who was a suspect in a domestic-violence case, police said. Stewart is the second Flagstaff police officer ever to be killed in the line of duty. On June 21, 2008, Officer Jeff Moritz, 30, was killed after he pulled over a teenager as the teen drove around his neighborhood in a truck playing loud rap music.



Flagstaff, Ariz., police officer Tyler J. Stewart.

Stewart was looking for the man — identified as Robert W. Smith, 28, of Prescott — about 1:30 p.m. in the 800 block of West

Clay Avenue when Smith fired several shots at the officer, police said. Smith then shot himself and was pronounced dead at the scene, police added.

Investigators do not believe Stewart fired any shots, but they continue to investigate the matter, Sgt. Margaret Bentzen said.

Stewart was taken to Flagstaff Medical Center in critical condition and later died, police said.

Stewart had worked at the department for less than a year, police said. He was a graduate of Boulder Creek High School in Anthem, Ariz., and Concordia College in California, police said.

"This is an enormous tragedy for our department and the family of our Officer," Chief Kevin Treadway said in a statement. "We are a very close knit organization, and know that all members of the Flagstaff Police Department are grieving at this time. With that being said, all of the men and women of the Flagstaff Police Department extend our prayers and condolences to the family of our Officer Tyler Stewart."

"It is heartbreaking to lose one of our officers," Mayor Jerry Nabours said. "We collectively mourn for his family and the entire department."



Your free STARS AND STRIPES.
2015 Calendar is coming to Korea!

Get your copy on Friday, January 2,
in your Stars and Stripes Weekend Edition.

Available only in Korea. Copies also available at Dongson Medical Center in Daegu.

Sponsored by

계명대학교 동산의료원

NATION

Blind judge, 41, set to start on Mich. high court

By ED WHITE

The Associated Press

DETROIT — Richard Bernstein officially joins the Michigan Supreme Court in a few days. But he's been working off the clock since November, preparing for 10 cases in an extraordinary way — memorizing the key points of every brief read to him by an aide.

Bernstein, 41, has been blind since birth. After winning the election, Bernstein had an assistant at his family's Detroit-area law firm begin reading briefs to him for mid-January arguments, including a medical marijuana case and a labor dispute covering thousands of state employees.

"It would be much easier if I could read and write like everyone else, but that's not how I was created," Bernstein said. "One question, it requires a lot more work, but the flip side is it requires you to operate at the highest level of preparedness. ... This is what I've done my entire life. This goes all the way back to grade school for me."

Michigan has never had a blind judge on its highest court, and few other states have. In Missouri, Justice Richard Teitelman has been legally blind since age 13. Judge David Tatel, who is blind, sits on a federal appeals court in Washington, D.C.

"Every new justice has to make a transition from whatever life he or she had before," Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. said. "His will be different than others, but he's extraordinarily successful and very driven. You don't enter Ironman competitions without having a steel backbone."

Indeed, Bernstein's remarkable background undoubtedly appealed to voters. He has run more than 15 marathons, and in 2008 completed a triathlon by riding a bike 112 miles, running 26.2 miles and swimming 2.4 miles with the help of guides. In 2012, he made headlines in New York City after being struck by a speeding bicyclist while running in Central Park, a collision that put him in a hospital for weeks.

Bernstein is widely known in southeastern Michigan because his family's personal-injury law firm regularly advertises on TV. He spent more than \$1.8 million of his own money to campaign for the state Supreme Court. His slogan? "Blind Justice."

As one of only two Democrats on the seven-member court, Bernstein is unlikely to crack the court's conservative sway. But he's still expected to make a difference. He will be sworn into office on New Year's Day. Timothy McLean, his assistant for three years, has been reading briefs aloud to prepare him for the court's first batch of oral arguments on Jan. 13.

"I internalize the cases word for word, pretty much commit them primarily by memory," Bernstein said. "I'm asking the reader to pinpoint certain things, read footnotes, look at the legislative record."



Bernstein

Speedy extradition sought for man in old sex cases

The Associated Press

JACKSON, Wyo. — The governors of Wyoming and Michigan are trying to speed up extradition of a 94-year-old Michigan man investigators say molested children at a Wyoming youth camp decades ago.

Bill Bricker faces three counts in Wyoming of taking immoral acts with a child. Two men and one woman claim Bricker molested them when they were children at the Teton Valley Ranch Camp in the 1960s and 1980s, Teton County sheriff's officials allege.

Bricker was a volunteer at the camp at the time. Now, citing his age and failing health, Bricker's attorneys are fighting his extradition to Wyoming.

Wyoming Gov. Matt Mead formally asked Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder earlier this month to order Bricker to Wyoming to stand trial. As of Wednesday, a governor's warrant issued by Snyder on Dec. 16 hadn't been acted on by representatives of the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office, the Jackson Hole News & Guide reported.

Bricker was arrested in September and still can be brought to trial in Teton County because Wyoming doesn't have a statute of limitations for charges of immoral acts with a child.

Lawyers representing Bricker have said he is in hospice care and a trip to Wyoming could be fatal to their client.



AP

Jon McBride, who designs and builds drones with Digital Defense Surveillance, files a training drone for the Box Elder County Sheriff's Office during a demonstration in Brigham City, Utah, on Feb. 13. The Obama administration and Congress are considering rules for commercial drone operations in the U.S.

Obama administration soon to offer domestic drone rules

By JOAN LOWY

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is about to propose long-awaited rules for commercial drone operations in U.S. skies, but key decisions on how much access to grant drones are likely to come from Congress next year.

Federal Aviation Administration officials had said they want to release proposed rules before the end of this month, but other government and industry officials say they are likely to be delayed until January.

Meanwhile, except for a small number of companies that have received FAA exemptions, a ban on commercial drone flights remains in place. Even after rules

are proposed, regulations are unlikely to be final for two or three years.

That's too long to wait, say drone industry officials. Every year the ban remains in place, the United States loses more than \$10 billion in potential economic benefits that drones could provide, according to the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, a trade group.

"We need some sort of process that allows some of the low-risk operations," said Jesse Kallman, the head of regulatory affairs for Airware, a drone technology company backed by Google Ventures. "I think Congress understands that and, hopefully, they'll take steps in the coming year to address that."

That appears to be what some key lawmakers have in mind.

"We in Congress are very interested in UAs," Rep. Bill Shuster, R-Pa., chairman of the House Transportation and Committee, said at a hearing this month, referring to unmanned aerial systems, or drones. "We understand UAs are an exciting technology with the potential to transform parts of our economy. ... It is our responsibility to take a close look."

One of the committee's first priorities next year is writing legislation to reauthorize FAA programs and overhaul aviation policy. The bill is expected to include directions from lawmakers on how to integrate drones into the nation's aviation system.

Thinking about Cosmetic Surgery ? Come to new rising mecca of Cosmetic Surgery in Korea JCI Certified Konyang Univ. Hospital Daejeon, Korea



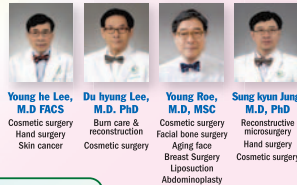
Located in the center of Korea, easy access & less than a hour by KTX from Seoul, Pyungtaek, Osan & Daegu.

Experienced and friendly English-speaking doctors.

State-of-the-art medical technology and equipments.

Reasonable surgery fees.

Near sightseeing points: Yusung hot spring, Expo amusement park, Ruins & museum showing ancient Korea.



Young hee Lee,
M.D. FACS
Cosmetic surgery
Hand surgery
Skin cancer

Du hyung Lee,
M.D. PhD
Burn care & reconstruction
Cosmetic surgery

Young Roe,
M.D. MSC
Cosmetic surgery
Facial bone surgery
Aging face
Breast Surgery
Liposuction
Abdominoplasty

Sung hyun Jung,
M.D. PhD
Reconstructive microsurgery
Hand surgery
Cosmetic surgery

Call now for free consultation and speak to your doctor directly !

Young hee Lee, M.D 010-9654-6680 (Yonghlee2001@yahoo.com)

Young Roe, M.D 010-9175-1327 (drmiin@chol.com)

Department of Plastic Surgery, Konyang Univ. Hospital, Daejeon, Korea

Far outside of Korea, dial 82-10-9175-1327



건양대학교병원
KONYANG UNIV. HOSPITAL

WORLD

Missing: Turbulence, lightning, winds may have become problematic

FROM FRONT PAGE

"He just told me, 'Praise God, this new year brings a lot of good fortune,'" Adityas recalled, holding her grandson tight while weeping uncontrollably. "He apologized because he could not join us for the new year celebration."

Nearly all the passengers and crew are Indonesians, who are frequent visitors to Singapore, particularly on holidays.

The Airbus A320 took off Sunday morning from Surabaya, Indonesia's second-largest city, and was about halfway to Singapore when it vanished from radar. Djoko Murjatmodjo, Indonesia's acting director general of transportation, said there was no distress signal from the cockpit of the twin-engine, single-aisle plane.

The last communication between the pilot and air traffic control was at 6:13 a.m. Saturday when the pilot "asked to avoid clouds by turning left and going higher to 34,000 feet," Murjatmodjo said. It was last seen on radar at 6:16 a.m., and a minute later was no longer there, he told reporters.

Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia launched a search and rescue operation for Flight 8501 near Belitung island in the Java Sea, the area where the jetliner lost contact with ground traffic control about 42 minutes after taking off from Surabaya.

"We hope we can find the location of the plane as soon as possible, and we hope that God will give us guidance to find it," Murjatmodjo said.

The air search was suspended Sunday evening and was to resume Monday morning, said Achmad Toha of Indonesia's search and rescue agency. Some ships were continuing to comb the area overnight, he said.

AEO Tony Fernandes flew to Surabaya and said at a news conference that the focus should be on the search and the families rather than the cause of the incident.

"We have no idea at the moment what went wrong," said Fernandes, a Malaysian businessman who founded the regional low-cost carrier in 2001. "Let's not speculate at the moment."

Malaysia-based AirAsia has a good safety record and had never lost a plane before. "This is my worst nightmare," Fernandes tweeted.

Malaysia had already had a catastrophic year, with 239 people still missing from Flight 370 and all 298 people aboard Flight 17 killed when it was shot down over rebel-held territory in Ukraine.

Flight 8501 was operated by AirAsia Indonesia, a subsidiary that is 49 percent owned by Air-



TRISNADI/AP

Relatives of the passengers of AirAsia Flight 8501 comfort each other at Juanda International Airport in Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia, on Sunday.

Key developments in plane's disappearance

■ The last communication between the pilot and air traffic control was made at 6:13 a.m., when the pilot asked to turn left and climb to 34,000 feet to avoid clouds.

■ AirAsia said the Airbus A320-200 was on the submitted flight plan route. Djoko Murjatmodjo, Indonesia's acting director general of transportation, said it is believed to have gone missing somewhere over the Java Sea between Tanjung Pandan on Belitung island and Pontianak, on Indonesia's part of Borneo island.

■ Indonesia's Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said dense storm clouds were detected at up to 44,000 feet in the same area at the time the plane was reported to have lost contact.

■ Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia are involved in the search-and-rescue operation. Three Indonesian aircraft were dispatched to the area, while Singapore's air force and navy search with two C-130 planes. Indonesia said 200 rescuers were deployed to the east side of Belitung island.

■ Dozens of relatives of people aboard the plane gathered in a room at Juanda International Airport in Surabaya to await word about their loved ones.

■ In a separate incident later Sunday, an AirAsia flight carrying more than 150 passengers experienced a technical problem about 10 minutes after taking off from Penang, Malaysia, and had to return to the airport, AirAsia said. The flight took off again for Langkawi island and safely reached its destination.

From The Associated Press

sia Malaysia.

AirAsia said in a statement that Flight 8501 was on the submitted flight plan route. However, it had requested a change due to weather before communication with the aircraft was lost while it was still under the control of Indonesian air traffic control.

Suwardi, a weather forecaster at the Indonesia's Meteorology and

Geophysics Agency, said dense storm clouds were detected at up to 44,000 feet in the same area at the time the plane was reported to have lost contact.

"There could have been turbulence, lightning and vertical as well as horizontal strong winds within such clouds," said Suwardi, who like many Indonesians uses only one name.

The plane had an Indonesian captain and a French co-pilot, five cabin crew members and 155 passengers, including 16 children and one infant, AirAsia Indonesia said in a statement. Among the passengers were three South Koreans, a Malaysian, a British national and his 2-year-old Singaporean daughter. The rest were Indonesians.

AirAsia said the captain has

a total of 6,100 flying hours, but Fernandes later said the number is more than 20,000. The airline said the first officer has 2,275 flying hours.

At Surabaya airport, dozens of relatives sat in a room waiting for news, many of them talking on mobile phones and crying. Some looked dazed. As word spread, more and more family members were arriving at the crisis center to await word.

Dimas, who goes by one name, said his wife, Ratri Sri Andriani, 30, had been on the flight to lead a group of 25 Indonesian tourists on a trip to Singapore and Malaysia. He was holding out hope that the plane had made an emergency landing.

"We can just pray and hope that all those aboard are safe," said Dimas, who was surrounded by Ratri's parents and friends at the airport crisis center. "We are worried, of course, but we have to surrender to her fate."

Transport Minister Ignasius Jonan told reporters in Surabaya that Indonesia's army and the national search and rescue agency were involved in the search, as were Singapore and Malaysia.

Other Indonesian officials said 200 rescuers had been deployed to the east side of Belitung island and that three aircraft, including a surveillance plane, were dispatched to the area.

Search and rescue head Bambang Soelistyo said his agency would search Monday with 12 ships and three helicopters, along with three aircraft from the air force, two aircraft from the navy and a number of warships. He added that Malaysia and Singapore would each deploy one C-130 plane and three ships, and that Australia also would assist.

Airbus said in a statement that the missing aircraft was delivered to AirAsia in October 2008, and that the plane had accumulated about 23,000 flight hours during some 13,600 flights. AirAsia said the aircraft had last undergone scheduled maintenance on Nov. 16.

AirAsia, which has dominated cheap travel in Southeast Asia for years, flies short routes of just a few hours, connecting the region's large cities. Recently, it has tried to expand into long-distance flying through its sister airline AirAsia X.

Fernandes, who is the face of AirAsia and an active Twitter user, sent out an earlier tweet saying: "Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers. We must stay strong."

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM: A look back in photos on 13 years of war

View the exclusive photos from

STARS AND STRIPES

at www.stripes.com/afghanphotos



WORLD

Russia declares NATO top threat in new doctrine

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia identified NATO as the nation's No. 1 military threat and raised the possibility of a broader use of precision conventional weapons to deter foreign aggression under a new military doctrine signed by President Vladimir Putin on Friday.

NATO flatly denied it is a threat to Russia, and accused Moscow of undermining European security.

The new doctrine, which comes amid tensions over Ukraine, reflected the Kremlin's readiness to take a stronger posture in response to what it sees as U.S.-led efforts to isolate and weaken Russia.

The paper maintains the provisions of the previous, 2010 edition of the military doctrine regarding the use of nuclear weapons.

It says Russia could employ nuclear weapons in retaliation for the use of nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction against the country or its allies, and also in the case of aggression involving conventional weapons that "threatens the very existence" of the Russian state.

But for the first time, the new doctrine says "Russia could use precision weapons" as part of strategic deterrent measures.

The document does not spell out when and how Moscow could resort to such weapons. Examples of precision conventional weapons include ground-to-ground missiles, air- and submarine-launched cruise missiles, guided bombs and artillery shells.

Among other things, the paper mentions the need to protect Russia's interests in the Arctic, where the global competition for its vast oil and other resources has been heating up as the Arctic ice melts. Russia has relied heavily on its nuclear deterrent and lagged far behind the U.S. and its NATO allies in the development of precision conventional weapons. However, it has recently sped up its military modernization, buying large numbers of new weapons and boosting military drills. It has also sharply increased air patrols over the Baltics.

On Friday, Moscow successfully test-fired the RS-24 Yars intercontinental ballistic missile from the Plesetsk launchpad in northwest Russia.

The 29-page doctrine outlines top threats to Russia's security and possible responses. It is the document's third edition since Putin was first elected in 2000.



MUSA SADULAYEV/AP

Chechen special forces listen to Chechnya's regional leader, Ramzan Kadyrov, deliver a speech as they stand near a banner depicting Russian President Vladimir Putin and words reading, "As long as we are united, we are invincible!" in Grozny, Russia, on Sunday.

Egyptian court upholds 'debauchery' conviction

CAIRO — An Egyptian appeals court on Saturday upheld the convictions of eight men last month for "debauchery" amid an increasingly harsh government campaign against homosexuality, though the court reduced the men's three-year prison terms to one year, state media reported.

Homosexuality in itself is not illegal in Egypt, but the government of President Abdel Fattah Sisi, already engaged in a months-long crackdown on secular and Islamist political opponents, has moved to promote conservative social mores by taking aim at groups such as gays and atheists.

The defendants had been convicted based on a video that appeared to show two men exchanging rings aboard a Nile party boat.

Turkey stands behind Palestinian opposition

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said Sunday that Turkey stands behind Palestinian efforts to oppose what he called Israeli attempts to "reduce the Islamic character" of Jerusalem.

Davutoglu was speaking to reporters in the central Turkish city of Konya a day after meeting with exiled Hamas chief Khaled Mashal.

Violent demonstrations led Israel in November to briefly restrict Muslim access to a holy site in Jerusalem that includes the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the ancient Hebrew Temple Mount. The move fueled accusations that Israel was secretly plotting to take over the site, despite Israeli denials.

Libya calls extremist clashes an escalation

CAIRO — Libya's foreign minister in the internationally recognized government said extremist groups are escalating their attacks in his country, including a renewed push to control oil resources, calling for concerted international efforts to stem the flow of money and weapons to them.

Fighting has erupted around Libya's largest oil terminal, Sidra, which is under the control of anti-Islamist militiamen allied with the internationally recognized Tobruk-based government. It allowed an announcement from the rival Tripoli-based government in mid-December to "liberate" Sidra. The clashes have forced the shutdown of the Sidra terminal, and storage tanks there have been set ablaze.

S. Korea, US, Japan to share intel on North

By HYUNG-JIN KIM
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea, the U.S. and Japan will sign their first joint intelligence-sharing pact this week to better cope with North Korea's increasing nuclear and missile threats, officials said Friday.

The U.S. has separate, bilateral intelligence-sharing agreements with South Korea and Japan, both American allies which are hosts to tens of thousands of U.S. troops.

But Seoul and Tokyo don't have such bilateral pacts, partly a result of long-running disputes stemming from Japan's colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula from 1910 to 1945.

In 2012, the two almost forged an intelligence-sharing pact, but its signing was scrapped at the last minute following a backlash in South Korea.

Under the latest initiative, South Korea and Japan would share intelligence only on North

Korea's nuclear and missile programs via the U.S., according to a statement from Seoul's Defense Ministry.

The pact would enable the three countries to swiftly respond to any North Korean provocation at a time when its threats are growing following a third nuclear test in February 2013, the statement said.

The use of Japanese intelligence assets would boost surveillance on North Korea, it said.

South Korean officials say the

North is believed to have made progress in manufacturing nuclear warheads that are small and light enough to be placed on a missile capable of reaching the U.S. North Korea conducted its first bomb test in 2006, followed by another in 2009.

The formal signing of the pact by the South Korean vice defense minister and his U.S. and Japanese counterparts will take place Monday, according to South Korean defense officials.

Japan's Abe unleashes stimulus plan to spur growth

By ELAINE KURTENBACH
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's Cabinet approved \$29 billion in fresh stimulus Saturday for the ailing economy, pledging to get growth back on track and restore the country's precarious public finances.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is wrapping up his second year in office hard-pressed to salvage a recovery that fizzled into recession after a sales tax increase in April.

The stimulus plan endorsed by the Cabinet includes \$5 billion earmarked for stagnant regional economies. It also lays out Abe's vision for countering longer-term trends such as Japan's surging public debt and a declining and aging population.

"A strong economy is the wellspring of Japan's national strength," said a summary of the

plan released by the government. It pledged to restore vitality to local regions to enable young Japanese people "to have dreams and hopes for the future."

But the document also acknowledged the narrow policy options open to Japan's leaders given the country's massive public debt, which is twice the size of the economy.

The government is sticking to its pledge to balance its budget by

2020 despite a recent decision by Abe to defer until April 2017 a tax increase due for next year.

Abe has sought to spur growth and end a long spell of deflation through aggressive monetary easing and increased public spending. He also promised to undertake bold steps to break through the "bedrock" of Japan's vested interests and bureaucracy, but has made little headway in areas such as labor and farm sector reforms.

24 dead, 8 missing in Sri Lanka mudslides

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Twenty-four people have been killed and eight others are missing due to floods and mudslides caused by incessant rain in southern Sri Lanka over the past week, officials said Sunday.

About 106,000 people have lost their homes or evacuated to safer locations, the Disaster Management Center said. The biggest damage was reported in southern eastern Badulla district, where 14 people were killed by mudslides.

From wire reports

WORLD

Japan's McDonald's to bring big fries back

TOKYO — Big fries are going back on the menu in Japan. McDonald's Japan said Friday it will resume serving all portion sizes of fries on Jan. 5 after resolving shortages due to labor disruptions on the U.S. West Coast. The fast-food giant began limiting customers to orders of small fries earlier this month.

The company said in a notice on its website that its fry inventory had improved thanks to air shipments and extra sea shipments from the U.S. East Coast. It apologized and said it would try to avoid further shortfalls at its 3,100 outlets in Japan.

Frozen french fries — cut and ready for the deep fryer — are a leading U.S. export.

Pakistan: Gunmen kill man from minority sect

ISLAMABAD — A Pakistani police officer said unknown gunmen shot dead a young man from a targeted religious minority community in eastern Pakistan.

Rifaqat Hussain said gunmen killed Luqman Shahzad on Sunday as he walked to an agricultural field near his village in the Gujranwala district of Punjab.

A spokesman for the Ahmadi community said Shahzad is the 11th member of the community killed in Pakistan this year. The spokesman, Saleemud Din, said Pakistani religious leaders and media continue to incite hatred against Ahmadis.

Ahmadis are followers of Ghulam Ahmed, an Indian religious leader who died in 1908. Although their beliefs overlap with Islam in many ways, they are considered heretics by many conservative Muslims.

American to be held in Israel until end of trial

JERUSALEM — An Israeli court has ordered an Illinois man charged with plotting anti-Muslim violence detained until the end of court proceedings against him.

Everett Adam Livivix, 30, was arrested in November and charged with weapons possession. The indictment accused Livivix of planning to blow up Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem. Israeli police said Livivix, posing as a former U.S. Navy SEAL, also turned down an offer from a Palestinian to assassinate President Barack Obama during his visit in 2013.

Turkish cargo ship founders; 3 missing

ROME — The Italian Coast Guard said three crew members were missing after a Turkish cargo ship collided with a merchant vessel in choppy seas near the northern Adriatic port of Marina di Ravenna.

It said several crew members from the ship were rescued after the collision Sunday morning. The Turkish ship was foundering near the port. Details, including the cause of the collision, were not immediately available.

From The Associated Press

Ebola hampers African malaria fight

By MICHELLE FAUL
The Associated Press

GUECKEDOU, Guinea — West Africa's fight to contain Ebola has hampered the campaign against malaria, a preventable and treatable disease that is claiming many thousands more lives than the dreaded virus.

In Gueckedou, near the village where Ebola first started killing people in Guinea's tropical southern forests a year ago, doctors say they have had to stop pricking fingers to do blood tests for malaria.

Guinea's drop in reported malaria cases this year by as much as 40 percent is not good news, said Dr. Bernard Nahlen, deputy director of the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative. He said the

decrease is likely because people are too scared to go to health facilities and are not getting treated for malaria.

"It would be a major failure on the part of everybody involved to have a lot of people die from malaria in the midst of the Ebola epidemic," he said in a telephone interview. "I would be surprised if there were not an increase in unnecessary malaria deaths in the midst of all this, and a lot of those will be young children."

Figures are always estimates in Guinea, where half the 12 million people have no access to health centers and die uncounted. Some 15,000 Guineans died from malaria last year, 14,000 of them children under 5, according to Nets for Life Africa, a New

York-based charity dedicated to providing insecticide-treated mosquito nets to put over beds. In comparison, about 1,600 people in Guinea have died from Ebola, according to statistics from the World Health Organization.

Malaria is the leading cause of death in children younger than 5 in Guinea and, after AIDS, the leading cause of adult deaths, according to Nets for Life.

Ebola and malaria have many of the same symptoms, including fever, dizziness, head and muscle aches. Malaria is caused by bites from infected mosquitoes while Ebola can be contracted only from the body fluids of an infected victim — hence doctors' fears of drawing blood to do malaria tests.

People suffering malaria fear

being quarantined in Ebola treatment centers, and health centers not equipped to treat Ebola are turning away patients with Ebola-like symptoms, doctors said.

WHO figures from Gueckedou show that of people coming in with fever in October, 24 percent tested positive for Ebola also tested positive for malaria, and 33 percent of those who did not have Ebola tested positive for malaria — an indication of the great burden of malaria in Guinea.

Malaria killed one of 38 Cuban doctors sent to Guinea to help fight the Ebola outbreak. One private hospital had a kidney dialysis machine that could have saved his failing organ but the clinic was shut after several people died there of Ebola.



SKAI TV STATION/AP

Smoke rises from the Italian-flagged Norman Atlantic after it caught fire Sunday in the Adriatic Sea.

Ferry burns in Adriatic; rough seas are slowing rescue efforts

By DEREK GATOPOLUKS
AND NICHOLAS PAFOITIS
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — A ferry carrying about 470 people caught fire off the Greek island of Corfu early Sunday, trapping passengers on the top decks as gale-force winds and choppy seas hampered the evacuation.

Greek and Italian rescue helicopters and vessels struggled to reach the stricken ferry, battered by 55 mph winds that sent it up toward the strait between Italy and Albania. Nearby, merchant ships lined up to form a barrier to protect the ferry and to facilitate rescue, said Italian Navy Capt. Riccardo Rizzotto.

The fire broke out on the car deck of the Italian-flagged Norman Atlantic, traveling from the Greek port of Patras to Ancona,

Italy, with 422 passengers and 56 crew members on board. No one has been reported injured, and 117 people have been transported to safety — eight airlifted to southern Italy and the rest taken to nearby ships, said Greek Merchant Marine spokesman Nikos Lagadianos.

Passengers stranded on a high deck told Greek media that lifeboats from surrounding vessels had been unable to take them off due to the high seas.

"The fire is still burning," Greek passenger Sofoklis Styliaras told private Mega television. "On the lower deck, where the lifeboats are, our shoes were starting to melt from the heat."

There's nowhere else for us to go. It's impossible to walk on the lower deck because of the heat."

The ship was packed with holi-

daymakers and truck drivers making the popular transport run between Greece and Italy. Of those on board, 234 passengers and 34 crew were Greek and the rest of various unspecified nationalities, said Lagadianos.

The spokesman said a lifeboat carrying about 150 passengers had been lowered into the water, and Italian rescue workers started transporting passengers from it by helicopter — two at a time — to the nearby Cruise Europa ship. Two tugboats were working to try to extinguish the fire, he said.

Prime Minister Antonis Samaras was in contact with his Italian counterpart, Matteo Renzi, to coordinate the operation "at the highest level," Greek government officials said, adding that the operation was now under Italian control.

Hamas bars Gaza kids from Israel trip

By FARES AKRAM
The Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Gaza's Hamas rulers prevented a group of children from entering Israel on Sunday for a postwar conciliatory trip meant to foster peace, Hamas and organizers said.

The 37 children, most of whom have lost parents in fighting between Hamas and Israel, were to enter Israel on Sunday to spend a week visiting Jewish and Arab communities and a zoo and to travel to the West Bank for a meeting with the Palestinian president.

But a bus carrying the children and their adult chaperones was turned back when it reached the main crossing between Israel and Gaza.

Hamas spokesman Eyad Buzum said the decision to bar the children's entry was made "to protect the culture of our children and our people" from normalizing relations with Israel. He said Hamas would make sure such a trip "will never happen again."

Israel and Hamas fought a brutal, 50-day war last summer that killed 2,100 Palestinians and destroyed parts of the impoverished coastal enclave. On the Israeli side, the fighting killed 72 people and disrupted the lives of millions of people.

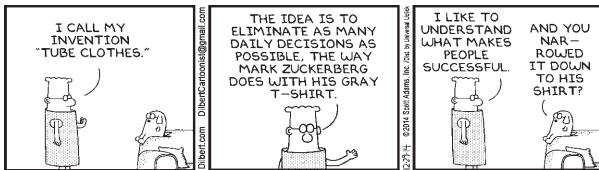
Yoel Marshak, one of the trip's organizers, said the "visit" was meant to show a positive side of Israel and to promote peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

"These children will one day be the leaders of Gaza and they would have remembered this trip and known that we can live in peace, side by side," he said. "The trip was meant to be a big hug for them."

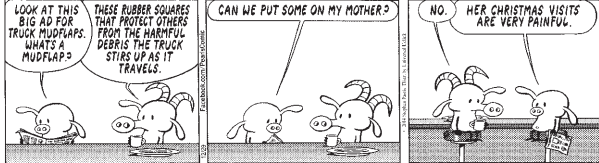
Frazz



Dilbert



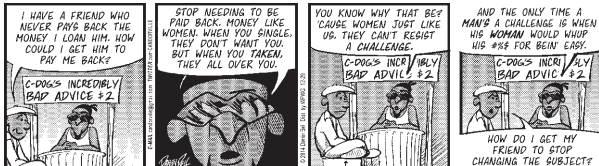
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



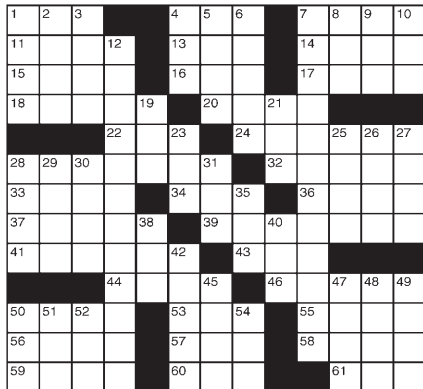
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Craze
- 4 Marry
- 7 Radiate
- 11 Thunderstruck
- 13 Mellow
- 14 Start over
- 15 Hideaway
- 16 Get dressed in
- 17 Helper
- 18 "I Love Lucy" co-star
- 20 Affix an autograph
- 22 Profit
- 24 Wild and crazy guy
- 28 Genie's master
- 32 Photog's directive
- 33 Titanic destroyer
- 34 "Wham!"
- 36 Initial stake
- 37 Intact
- 39 Combatant
- 41 Unisex top
- 43 "Help!"
- 44 Pita sandwich
- 46 Celebratory cry
- 50 Tied
- 53 Toss in
- 55 Egyptian cross
- 56 Prom-goers' ride
- 57 Cow's comment
- 58 Entice
- 59 Manhandle

DOWN

- 60 Paid player
- 61 Witnessed
- 27 — -do-well
- 28 Touch
- 29 Camera feature
- 30 Part of the foot
- 31 Present
- 32 Slay
- 35 Existed
- 38 Attempt
- 40 Line
- 42 Chaplin character
- 45 Smell
- 47 Burden
- 48 Gumbo ingredient
- 49 "That's a relief!"
- 50 Shade source
- 51 By way of letter
- 52 Flightless bird
- 54 "Cock-a-doodle—!"

Answer to Previous Puzzle



12-29

CRYPTOQUIP

COIEKSWCECW OGRY VECGRCW

IU G YTGQSYZ SOTECYYSKQSYR

SQ GQ SQWSGQ VSRU: WGMS'Y

W C M Z S W K S M S C Y .

Saturday's Cryptoquip: I'VE HEARD THAT WHEN THE TWO YOUNG DUST DEVILS MET EACH OTHER, THEY HAD A WHIRLWIND ROMANCE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals D

WORLD

Full steam ahead!



PHOTOS BY AMEL EMRIC/AP

Above: Bosnian worker Sefik Salihovic drives the steam engine at the coal mine of Oskova in the Bosnian town of Banovici, about 90 miles north of Sarajevo, on Nov. 24. Below: Salihovic prepares the steam engine for driving at the coal mine. In the summer the engines attract tourists for rides.



Bosnian town hoping train increases tourism

By AMEL EMRIC
The Associated Press

Every day, steam engines more than 60 years old defy their age and pull wagons of coal from the coal mine in Banovici, Bosnia-Herzegovina, to nearby towns. In the summer, they become the only tourist attraction this impoverished north Bosnian town has to offer, as the mine allows visitors to take a ride on the narrow-gauge (30 inches) line.

The coal mine planned to replace the old engines after Bosnia's 1992-95 war, but the sudden arrival of steam train enthusiasts inspired a change of plans. The company began servicing the steam engines and putting them back to work.

Aside from those built in 1948 and still hauling coal, the most popular engine is one built in the Czech Republic in 1925 that stood for 35 years as an exhibit on a side track until management decided to restore it to service. The little train carries up to 50 tourists in its two carriages, winding 6 miles through Bosnian mountains at a maximum speed of about 31 mph. A ticket costs about \$12.40. "About a thousand steam train fans come here every year," said Dzevad Hodzic, the coal mine's technical director.

The engine is the only one of its type still running in the world, Hodzic said.

He hopes the tourism business will expand so the Banovici coal mine can put several more refurbished steam engines to work next year.



SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

LESS HOLIDAY MESS

Scientists target hassle of cleaning up fallen Christmas tree needles

By MALCOLM RITTER
The Associated Press

The presents are unwrapped. The children's shrieks of delight are just a memory. Now it's time for another Yuletide tradition: cleaning up the needles that are falling off your Christmas tree.

"I'm not particularly worried about it. ... I'll just sweep it up," said Lisa Smith-Hansford, of New York, who bought a small tree at a Manhattan sidewalk stand early last week. She likes the smell of a real tree, she said, comparing it to comfort food.

But others do mind. Consumers consis-

tently cite messiness as one of the most common reasons they don't have a real tree, says the National Christmas Tree Association.

Keeping a tree well watered goes a long way toward minimizing the needle problem. But beyond that, scientists are trying to find ways to make trees less messy and keep them fresh through the holidays.

It's in the genes

Some kinds of trees, like the noble fir or Fraser fir, are better than others at maintaining moisture and keeping their needles once they're in your house, said Gary Chastagner, of Washington State University. But even within a given species, some trees are better than others, he said. Needle retention is an inherited trait; if a tree does well, so will the offspring that grow from the seeds in its cones.

Seeking the champs

At a research station in Puyallup, Wash., Chastagner works to identify individual trees that hold onto their needles best. He tests branches cut early in the fall, which encourages needle loss because they haven't experienced cold weather. He lets them dry out and his team evaluates them after about 10 days, looking for branches that do not shed any needles.

Needles start to fall off branches from some trees within three to five days when the branch is gently rubbed, even if they aren't dry and brittle.

A poor performer may lose all of them within a week.

Good branch is good sign

If a branch does well, it means the tree has good genetics for keeping needles. So growers can seek out seeds from those trees to produce seedlings for future planting. These progeny should do well, too. With a federal grant, Chastagner is also working with others to identify genetic markers that indicate whether a tree will resist needle shedding. That would make the tree-screening process much faster and perhaps lead to breeding experiments to produce superior trees.

Another global warming worry

Trees that experience warm autumns tend to have more needle loss later, Chastagner said. If global warming leads to warmer falls in the future, it could be bad news for Christmas trees. But since his studies focus on tree branches harvested before cold autumn weather sets in, they may identify trees that will do well in a warming world, he said.

For now, water that tree

Chastagner emphasizes that homeowners can minimize needle shedding by keeping their displayed trees well-supplied with water. In fact, when he has set up trees for research in early December and kept them watered, some species, like noble and Nordmann fir, have gone even three months with only minimal shedding.

"The potential is phenomenal," he said.

ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING/
Stars and Stripes



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Santa Claus delivers for animal shelter

NJ MADISON — Santa Claus went to work on Christmas Day for an animal shelter.

Santa delivered dogs and cats as presents for the St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center in Madison, N.J.

Shelter staffer Melissa Morgan donned the costume to deliver pets adopted last week by parents to doubly surprised children in the area. She took a box to the door of the Crescenzi family in Union, and Angelo, 4, ripped the wrapping paper off to reveal a black kitten inside.

The animal shelter said it permits adoptions only after one-on-one counseling with families to make sure they understand the responsibilities and can offer safe environments.

Mall closes early over fights involving teens

PA MONROEVILLE — Authorities said several fights broke out among hundreds of teens who packed a western Pennsylvania shopping center, forcing it to close early.

The altercations erupted Friday evening at the Monroeville Mall. Monroeville Police Chief K. Douglas Cole said at least two people were hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries.

Cole said large groups of teens began showing up about 5 p.m., with the crowds swelling to as many as 1,000, according to mall security officers. Cole said he doesn't believe it was an organized event or protest.

Employees said stores closed early after fights were reported about 8 p.m. Cole reported minor damage to the mall.

Cole said he expects officers to issue disorderly conduct citations.

Sharp rise seen in costly meth lab busts

ME AUGUSTA — Maine drug officials are confronting a startling rise in the number of methamphetamine labs across the state.

Maine Drug Enforcement Agency Director Roy McKinney said the agency busted 28 meth labs this year, up 12 over last year and more than six times as many as three years ago.

Officials said dismantling labs can cost more than \$10,000 each. The raids are taking a toll on the agency's resources and are distracting them from other work. They said it's difficult to pinpoint why the labs are on the rise.

They hope a \$900,000 federal grant will help the state stem the tide. The grant, announced in October, will provide funding for two years for four new drug agents and specialized equipment.

School error pulls funds from staffers' accounts

MA PLYMOUTH — Some employees in a Massachusetts school district feel like they got a visit from the Grinch.

Instead of receiving their paychecks via direct deposit on Monday day after Christmas, Plymouth

THE CENSUS

15 The number of drunken driving arrests in Connecticut that resulted from a stepped-up highway safety enforcement program that began Dec. 19 and ran through Friday. The crackdown was called "Stop Another Needless Tragic Accident," or SANTA for short. According to figures provided by state police, 241 speeding tickets had been issued through Friday afternoon, along with nearly 700 other citations for failure to use seat belts, distracted driving and other violations.



BRUCE LIPSKY, THE (JACKSONVILLE) FLORIDA TIMES-UNION/AP

Balancing act

Samuel Morrow and his dog, Pudge, cruise in the bicycle lane on Beach Boulevard in Jacksonville, Fla., on Friday.

Public Schools workers awoke Friday to find that the amounts they were to be paid instead had been withdrawn from their bank accounts. About 1,300 workers were affected.

Superintendent Dr. Gary E. Maestas sent an email to employees saying the issue was caused by human error. The school department is working with the town and banks to fix the problem. Maestas said some banks wouldn't make corrections until Monday.

The error has left some employees thousands of dollars in the red.

Leg lamp is stolen from store's display

NY NORTH TONAWANDA — Who took the leg lamp

belonging to Ralphie's "Old Man" from a New York store's annual tribute to "A Christmas Story?"

The owner of the Yankee Spirits liquor store in North Tonawanda said his annual window display honoring the holiday classic includes memorabilia from the 1983 film, including several versions of the iconic leg lamp.

The store's surveillance video shows a man in a gray hoodie and sunglasses walking into the store and glancing around before grabbing a large leg lamp and leaving.

Store owner Gary Brennan said even his customers are angry about the theft.

In the movie, Ralphie's father wins a prize that turns out to be a garish lamp in the shape of a woman's leg in a fishnet stocking. Ralphie's mother "accidentally" breaks it, leaving the Old Man

heartbroken.

Kayaker on pond with Charlie Brown rescued

MA EASTHAMPTON — Massachusetts fire officials went to the rescue of a capsize kayaker who may have been trying to install a Charlie Brown cutout on a raft that holds a Christmas tree at the center of a pond.

Easthampton firefighters rescued the man about 8 p.m. Dec. 21 as he was clinging to the raft.

Fire Chief David Mottor said a 3-foot-tall cutout depicting the likeness of cartoon character Charlie Brown was found in his kayak. Mottor said a practical joke isn't worth losing a life. He said the water temperature was in

the low 40s, cold enough to cause hypothermia.

Police said the man likely will not be charged.

Exit renamed 'Clark Griswold' in prank

NJ CLARK — At least one "Christmas Vacation" fan was driving on New Jersey's Garden State Parkway on Thursday.

Someone changed a sign for the highway's exit for Clark and Westfield to read "Clark Griswold."

Griswold is the father character played by Chevy Chase in the Christmas cult classic.

State Police spokesman Sgt. Gregory Williams confirmed photos of the sign posted on social media are real. Williams said the taped-on Griswold sign at the highway's exit 135 was removed by the Turnpike Authority.

Panda cub Bao Bao back down from tree

DC WASHINGTON — The National Zoo's panda cub, Bao Bao, is back with her mother after spending more than 24 hours in a tree, where she went after being startled by a tool zookeepers use to contain animals.

The National Zoo said Bao Bao climbed the tree Tuesday afternoon after touching a "hot wire" used for animal containment. WRCTV reported that she came down late Wednesday.

Members of the public, who can watch live video of the zoo's pandas online, posted worried inquiries on the zoo's Facebook page when they saw that Bao Bao was in a tree overnight and was still there Wednesday. The zoo said Bao Bao was "perfectly fine."

Bao Bao turned 1 in August. She's only the second panda born at the zoo to survive to her first birthday.

Funding secured for ice festival to return

IN RICHMOND — An eastern Indiana ice festival that spotlights the chilly work of skilled ice-carvers will be back for a second year after sponsors stepped up with the needed funds to prevent its cancellation.

Richmond's MELTDOWN Winter Ice Festival had been in danger of cancellation, prompting the event's organizing committee to recently issue a plea for an additional \$4,500 in sponsorships and donations for the free family event.

But the festival is "now a go," and set for Jan. 30-31 and Feb. 1 in Richmond's Industrial Depot District, said Mary Walker, executive director of the Wayne County Convention & Tourism Bureau.

From wire reports



FACES



AP photos

Brandon Delaney, general manager of the Plaza Theatre, in Atlanta, hangs a marquee sign Dec. 23 to announce that the theater would be showing "The Interview." The controversial comedy about an attempted assassination of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was released last week when Sony Pictures Entertainment announced a limited Christmas Day showing.

Saving face

Sony tries to make amends with 'Interview' flip-flop

BY MAE ANDERSON
The Associated Press

Sony's flip-flop on releasing "The Interview" shows the studio is working furiously to try to chart the right course through political and public-opinion minefields.

Although analysts don't believe the decision will have any effect on Sony's image, it will at least give the moviegoing public a chance to vote with their wallets and send North Korea a protest message.

Two weeks ago, Sony canceled the Christmas Day release of "The Interview" in the wake of an extensive hacking attack and release of confidential emails by a group linked with North Korea. The movie stars Seth Rogen and James Franco as journalists tasked by the CIA with killing North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. The hackers threatened violence if Sony didn't pull the movie. Sony did so after major theater chains decided not to screen it.

But the company then wavered in the face of public outcry and criticism from President Barack Obama. On Dec. 23, Sony Entertainment CEO Michael Lynton said Seth Rogen's North Korea farce "will be in a number of theaters on Christmas Day." The film opened in more than 200 theaters, down from an original release plan of 3,000.

Lynton said Sony also would release the movie through more digital platforms, such as Internet streaming or video on demand on cable systems.

Plaza Theatre owner Michael Furlinger in Atlanta said he was thrilled to be showing the movie. He canceled plans to fly to Long Island, N.Y., for the holidays.

"We play a lot of controversial pictures, things I don't necessarily agree with, but I will never censor them," he said. "It's not for me to decide. It's for the customer to decide. If they want to come, they'll spend their money. If they don't, that's their choice. It should not be the choice of somebody from North Korea or China or anywhere else."

If anything, the controversy has raised awareness about the movie. Although fewer theaters are showing it, those theaters might be more packed than they would have been otherwise.

Anthony LoRusso, 54, of Atlanta, thought the premise of the movie was "silly" and initially planned to wait for the DVD. Now, he plans to see it at The Plaza.

Colby Cohen, 29, of Atlanta said he probably would have seen it anyway, but the brief cancellation made him want to see it more.

"I'm going to get to fighting terrorism on Christmas Day now," he said.

Doug Stone, president of film industry newsletter Box Office Analyst, had estimated domestic box office for the movie would be \$75 million to \$100 million, of which Sony keeps about 55 percent. But the release has been too limited so far to give Sony much of a financial bump.

Furthermore, costly damage from the hackers' email leaks to relationships and

future projects cannot be recouped, and there is a threat of more leaks now that Sony is releasing the film after all.

"Panic-based decisions are not sound crisis management," said Jonathan Bernstein, president of Los Angeles-based crisis management company Bernstein Crisis Management. He said Sony should have waited until it was sure it can protect itself against hacking attacks.

Still, moviegoers seemed enthusiastic. Isaac Sokol, a 21-year-old university student in the Dallas suburb of Richardson, bought two tickets for a Christmas night show.

"The only way to tackle world conflicts and human rights violations and all of the dreaded things around the world is to take them with a grain of salt," he said. "If you don't, it's going to just be sadness."



LBJ historian disappointed in 'Selma' film

The Associated Press

The widely acclaimed movie "Selma" about the 1965 civil rights movement has disappointed at least one moviegoer: a leading historian of President Lyndon B. Johnson.

The director of the LBJ Presidential Library in Austin, Texas, said the film that opened in statewide theaters last week incorrectly portrays Johnson as an obstructionist to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Selma" is based on the 1965 marches from the Alabama cities of Selma to Montgomery that were led by King. At the time, marchers were calling for voting rights.

LBJ Library Director Mark Updegrave said the film unfairly casts Johnson as a sort of composite character who represents the obstacles blacks faced in getting civil rights laws passed. What history shows, Updegrave said, is that Johnson and King had a partnership.

He said Johnson and King had disagreements, but not like the film suggests. Updegrave called the portrayal unfortunate given the current climate in the wake of recent deaths of unarmed black men at the hands of police.

"When racial tension is so high, it does no good to suggest that the president of the U.S. himself stood in the way of progress a half-century ago. It flies in the face of history," Updegrave said.

"Selma" is nominated for four Golden Globe awards, including best picture for a drama and best director.

Casey Kasem's children to share medical records

The children of radio legend Casey Kasem said Dec. 24 they will share all hospital records in their possession with his widow, Jean Kasem, who is suing a hospital in Washington state to learn more about the last weeks of his life.

The records will show that all appropriate measures were taken to preserve Kasem's life, and when it was clear he was dying, to allow him to die comfortably, Kerri, Mike and Julie Kasem said in a statement issued through their lawyer, Troy Martin.

The "American Top 40" host died last June at 82. He had dementia.

The battle between Jean and Kerri Kasem continued after Casey Kasem's death. Jean had his body moved in July from a Tacoma funeral home to Oslo, Norway, for burial. Other relatives and friends say Casey Kasem had wished to be buried at the Forest Lawn cemetery in Los Angeles.

Other news

■ Oscar-winning director Roman Polanski lost his latest bid to have a California court dismiss his 1977 sex case when a judge rejected a motion for a new hearing. A nine-page order issued Dec. 24 by Superior Court Judge James Brandlin states that Polanski's claims of judicial misconduct cannot be addressed because he remains a fugitive outside the country after pleading guilty to unlawful sex with a minor in 1977.

■ Katt Williams has pleaded not guilty to a robbery charge filed after a photographer accused the comedian of stealing her camera. District attorney's spokeswoman Shira Davila-Morales said Williams entered the plea Dec. 24 and was ordered to return to court on Feb. 3 for a scheduling hearing. Williams, 43, could face up to seven years in prison if convicted.

Poll: Public mixed on the US economy

National temperature extremes
 i: Sat., 83, Pembroke Pines, Fla.
 o: Sat., -22, Lamar Ranger Station at
 Yellowstone National Park, Wyo.

Stripes

SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



Attorneys

178

NICKEL

US & German Attorneys

US & German Divorces • Employment
Wills and Probate • Support Issues
Personal Injury • Tax

Contract
Issues

Call 069-299-2069-0
Email: maiss@nickelonline.de

**EUROPE'S PREMIER
MILITARY DEFENSE FIRM**

COURT & CARPENTER
Over 45 years defending
servicemembers

Heilbronner Strasse 150,
70191 Stuttgart, Germany
Phone in Germany: 0711 490 04320
www.militarylawfirm.eu

Dental

902

**American
Dental Care**

Services Offered:

Family Dentistry
Certified Orthodontics
Crowns and Veneers
Implant Surgery
Zoom Teeth Whitening
Wisdom Teeth Surgery
Nitrous Oxide
Saturday & Evening Appointments
Caring, Friendly American Staff

LOCATIONS

Wiesbaden Dental Care
06119 887 2650
Bahnstrasse 14, 65205 Wiesbaden
Wiesbadendental.com

Ramstein Dental Care
06371 406230
Post Strasse 1, 66877 Ramstein
Ramsteindental.com

Certified American Dental
Hygienists
TRICARE Preferred Provider

Want a better picture?

You'll get one – just by reading
Stars and Stripes military news coverage.

In print • Online at stripes.com •
Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

STARS AND STRIPES
However you read us, wherever you need us.

Transportation

944

**VEHICLE
SHIPPING SERVICES**

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

For Further Information Please Contact

<p>GERMANY +49-6134-2592730 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only) info@transglobal-logistics.de www.transglobal-logistics.de</p>	<p>UNITED KINGDOM +44-117 938 1919 0800-7839351 (UK only) info@carshipuk.co.uk www.carshipuk.co.uk</p>	<p>USA +1-972-602-1670 +1-800-264-8167 (US only) info@galus www.galus</p>
--	--	---

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

Interglobal Shipping GmbH

Specialized Shipping to/from the US & Canada
Autos, Household Goods, Personal Belongings
Contact your Pro's at the Docks today!!
info@interglobalshipping.de
www.interglobalshipping.de

Tel: (0421) 540-6541 Fax: (0421) 540-6565
Toll Free: 0800-009-6311

Dental

902

American Orthodontist

Over 90% Non-Extraction

Dr. Michael Dillon, DDS, MS (Ortho)
Univ of Maryland, Former USAF

All Treatment Fees in US \$

Convenient Payment Plans • No Referral Necessary
Evening & Weekends • **TriCare Provider**

06371-918911 • www.dillonortho.com

**Modern Aesthetic
Dentistry**

- Aesthetic Dentistry
- TMJ/Facial Pain Treatment
- Certified Dental Hygienist
- Preventive Care and Periodontal Therapy
- Orthodontics/Invisalign
- Implants

Dr. Charles A. Smith DDS, LVIF is an American trained dentist providing expert dental care with the newest and most successful techniques to cover all your dental needs. Come see why patients travel from all over Europe to visit Dr. Smith for general dental care to smile makeovers. After many successful years in Heidelberg, Dr. Smith has now opened a second office in Stuttgart. Please visit our Homepage and email for appointment in early december.

Charles-Lindbergh-Str. 11 • 71034 Böblingen
info@boeblingendental.com • www.boeblingendental.com

Trans Global

LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH

NYK

transcar

Dependable POV Shipping

20 Years Experience
supporting the U.S. Military Community

Professional, Proud Provider of
Superior Customer Service

Port-to-Port or Door-to-Door Delivery Options

All-Inclusive Rates: No Hidden or Surprise Fees

Toll Free (In Germany): 0800-transcar (87267227)
Outside Germany: +49 (0) 6146 6070
Phone (In Italy): 0039 348 5505355
Email: povshipping@transcar.de
Web: <http://povshipping.transcar.de>

Financial Services

904

LOANS up to \$10,000

For Active Duty U.S. Military

Call Toll Free

Germany: 0800 YES-LOAN
Italy/Belgium: 00800 YES-LOANS
Stateside: +1.931.802.6522

www.yesomni.com

omni
MILITARY LOANS

"We love to say yes"™

Free Classifieds!

Visit Stripes.com for details.

STARS AND STRIPES

STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe
Lt. Col. Michael C. Bailey, Europe commander
Lt. Col. Brian Choate, Pacific commander
Terry M. Wegner, Pacific Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@stripes.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stripes.com
Sam Amrhein, Managing Editor International
amrhein.sam@stripes.com
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stripes.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stripes.com
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
Teddie Weyr, Europe & Mideast Chief
teddie.veyr@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9310 cell
+49(0)173.315.1881; DSN (314)583.9310
Pacific
Paul Alexander, Pacific Bureau Chief
alexander.paul@stripes.com
+81-3 6385.5377; cell (080)583.1673
DSN (312)225.5377

Washington
Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief
dickson.patrick@stripes.com
+1(202)761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stripes.com
Amanda Trypanis, Design Desk Supervisor
trypanis.amanda@stripes.com

CONTACT US

Washington
tel: +1(202)761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;
fax: +1(202)761.0890
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
20045-1301

Reader letters
letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts
stripes.com/contactus

OMBUSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.761.0587.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for reproduction and rental facilities where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or distribution without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2014

stripes.com

OPINION

'Selma' doesn't give LBJ proper credit

By JOSEPH A. CALIFANO JR.

What's wrong with Hollywood? The makers of the new movie "Selma" apparently just couldn't resist taking dramatic, trumped-up license with a true story that didn't need any embellishment to work as a big-screen historical drama. As a result, the film falsely portrays President Lyndon B. Johnson as being at odds with Martin Luther King Jr. and even using the FBI to discredit him, as only reluctantly behind the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and as opposed to the Selma march itself.

In fact, Selma was LBJ's idea, he considered the Voting Rights Act his greatest legislative achievement, he viewed King as an essential partner in getting it enacted — and he didn't use the FBI to disparage him.

On Jan. 15, 1965, LBJ talked to King by telephone about his intention to send a voting rights act to Congress. "There is not going to be anything as effective, though, Doctor, as all [blacks] voting."

Johnson then articulated a strategy for drawing attention to the injustice of using literacy tests and other barriers to stop black Southerners from voting. "We take the position," he said, "that every person born in this country, when he reaches a certain age, that he have a right to vote ... whether it's a Negro, whether it's a Mexican, or who it is ... I think you can contribute a great deal by getting your leaders and you, yourself, taking very simple examples of discrimination; where a [black] man's got ... to quote the first 10 Amendments, ... and some people don't have to do that, but when a Negro comes in he's got to do it, and if we can, just repeat and repeat and repeat."

"And if you can find the worst condition that you run into in Alabama, Mississippi or Louisiana or South Carolina ... and if

Johnson was enthusiastic about voting rights and the president urged King to find a place like Selma and lead a major demonstration.

you just take that one illustration and get it on radio, get it on television, get it in the pulpits, get it in the meetings, get it everywhere you can. Pretty soon the fellow that didn't do anything but drive a tractor will say, 'Well, that's not right, that's not fair,' and then that will help us on what we're going to shove through [Congress] in the end."

King agreed, and LBJ added, sealing the deal, "And if we do that we will break through. It will be the greatest breakthrough of anything, not even excepting this '64 [Civil Rights] Act, I think the greatest achievement of my administration."

Selma was the worst place King could find. Johnson met with King on Feb. 9 and heard about King's choice, a place where just 335 of about 10,000 registered voters were black — despite a population that was 60 percent black. Johnson thought the public pressure generated by a march from Selma to Montgomery, the capital of Alabama, would be helpful, and he hoped there would be no violence. But there was. On March 7, march leader John Lewis was clubbed to the ground; two days later, when another march attempt was staged, a white minister from Boston was killed. Summoned to the White House, Alabama Gov. George Wallace told LBJ that he couldn't protect the marchers. That gave the president the opportunity to federalize the Ala-

bama National Guard to protect them.

On March 15, Johnson addressed a joint session of Congress to propose his Voting Rights Act. When the president intoned the anthem of the civil rights movement, "And we shall overcome," John Lewis, watching the address on television with King, said that King cried.

When the march resumed a third time, on March 17, Johnson made sure the demonstrators would be protected. I was then Defense Secretary Robert McNamara's special assistant. My job was to report to the White House every couple of hours on the progress and protection of the marchers until they reached Montgomery.

For the truth about Johnson, the Voting Rights Act and Selma, listen to the tape of the LBJ-MLK telephone conversation and read my numerous reports to the White House, which have been on the LBJ Presidential Library website for years.

All this material was publicly available to the press, the writer of the screen play and the director of this film. Why didn't they use it? Did they feel no obligation to check the facts? Did they consider themselves free to fill the screen with falsehoods, immune from any responsibility to the dead, just because they thought it made for a better story?

Contrary to the portrait painted by "Selma," Lyndon Johnson and Martin Luther King Jr. were partners in this effort. Johnson was enthusiastic about voting rights and the president urged King to find a place like Selma and lead a major demonstration. That's three strikes for "Selma." The movie should be ruled out this Christmas and during the ensuing awards season.

Joseph A. Califano Jr. was President Lyndon B. Johnson's top assistant for domestic affairs from 1963 to 1969. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

'Interview' subverts Kim regime — a good thing

By RICH KLEIN

For starters, "The Interview" is very funny, the Seth Rogen foul-mouthed, silly way.

And while the propriety of showing a real world head of state being assassinated can be debated — the latest in a long list of political and social boundaries pushed by Hollywood — it also has moments that are surprisingly smart and politically astute.

That is why the North Koreans have reacted so aggressively. Because if this movie is seen by audiences around the world, and if copies are pirated into North Korea, it is a very real challenge to the ruling regime's legitimacy.

In "The Interview," Rogen and James Franco, as a celebrity interviewer and an aspirant hard news producer invited to question Kim Jong Un on live TV, openly ask why the country can spend billions of dollars on a nuclear weapons program but needs \$100 million in U.N. aid each year to feed its people.

The hagiography of Kim Jong Un is relentlessly mocked — the idea of the Dear Successor as superhero meets military genius with a little style icon and dolphin whisperer thrown in plays for big laughs.

North Korea's domestic narrative, where the calendar begins with the birth of Kim Il Sung, the country's founder, and now lives in the year 103, is explained to show how disconnected the place is from the rest of the world.

There are serious riffs on North Korea's

gulags and horrifying human rights record, decades of famine, brainwashing propaganda, and cartoonish self-importance.

When "The Interview" veers in to these sociopolitical realities and with some 45 million people worldwide having watched Rogen's last two movies, it becomes quite subversive to the Pyongyang government. Think of the movie as Chernobyl for the digital age. Just as the nuclear catastrophe in the Soviet Union and the dangerously clumsy efforts to hide it exposed the Kremlin's leadership as inept and morally bankrupt, overseeing a superpower rusting from the inside, so does "The Interview" risk eroding the myths, fabrications and bluster that keep the Kim dynasty in power.

Rogen and director Evan Goldberg intentionally did not avoid dangerous content. They could have fictionalized an authoritarian country and an egomaniac leader, they could have played Kim Jong Un as bland and one-dimensional, or given him a life-saving epiphany. It would have been safer that way, but not credible, and critics who now see the movie as reckless would have seen a vanilla version as naive and apologetic.

After well-publicized threats from North Korea, Sony Pictures had pulled the film from all distribution but now has rolled out "The Interview" in a number of independent theaters and online. That is the right thing to do because the issue is so much bigger than a poop-jokes-and-politics movie. This was a chance to shine a spotlight on a very dangerous and insecure North Korea,

and to catalyze a renewed debate about how to responsibly engage the country.

Consider the real-world North Korea: A country that has long threatened the world with nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles now adds a new and dangerous form of asymmetrical warfare to its arsenal. Exposing Americans to the true, repressive nature of the North Korean regime, which has been cataloged in horrifying detail by a recent U.N. investigation, and pressing our foreign policy community to improve the lot of the North Korean people would be a worthy outcome from "The Interview."

Satire is a legitimate way to challenge ideas. See films like "Bulworth," "Three Kings," "Dr. Strangelove," "Being There" or a long list of others that pushed people to think beyond the movie screen, even if uncomfortably, and put issues in front of audiences thousands of times bigger and more diverse than the most widely read op-ed or human rights report. The past weeks have introduced us to a serious new threat that should spur multinational efforts to resolve longstanding Korean Peninsula frictions and hostilities.

"The Interview" has more smart and substantive moments than most would rightfully give it. The world should see it now, putting the sting of isolation on Kim Jong Un and his government, not the filmmakers behind this subversive and damn funny movie.

Rich Klein is managing director for film and media at McLarty Associates, a strategic advisory firm in Washington. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Looking at the news

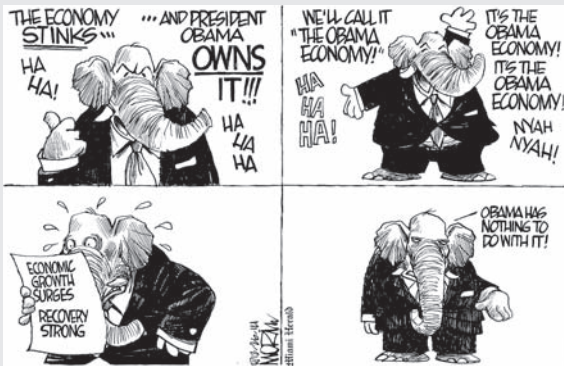
A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



Lisa Benson/Washington Post Writers Group



Jim Morin/MorinToons Syndicate



Jim Morin/MorinToons Syndicate



Mike Lester/Washington Post Writers Group



MAYOR DE BLASIO

INTERPRETER

Mike Lester/Washington Post Writers Group

INDEPENDENT NEWS FOR THE U.S. MILITARY COMMUNITY

Whenever They Fight and Wherever They Live

The first Stars and Stripes was printed during the Civil War, when a band of Union soldiers published a handful of editions.

During World War I, Stars and Stripes reappeared in Paris on February 8, 1918, to serve the doughboys of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), by order of General of the Armies John J. Pershing. An all-military staff produced it weekly until the war's end.

A second renaissance began on April 18, 1942, when a small group of servicemen began publishing a four-page weekly Stars and Stripes in London. They sold each copy for "tuppence" (about 5 cents) and in no time doubled their page count to eight pages, printing daily instead of weekly.

The first World War II edition of Stars and Stripes featured an interview with Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff. Marshall quoted Gen. Pershing, World War I Commander of the AEF, who described Stars as a major factor in sustaining morale. Stars and Stripes later found a champion and protector in Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander and later president of the United States.

Eisenhower enforced a hands-off policy in regard to Stars and Stripes that continues to the present day.

Operations expanded, following GIs to the battlefield to bring them the news. During the war, Stars and Stripes published over 30

separate editions, running up to 24 pages per issue.

At one time, Stars and Stripes had some 25 printing locations in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific. The Pacific edition was launched a week after VE day (Victory in Europe, May 8, 1945).

The war ended—but Stars and Stripes kept going. Its reporters and photographers continued to join American troops in the field, throughout the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, during the 1990s Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in Bosnia and Kosovo.

From the 2003 outset of Operation Enduring Freedom, Stars and Stripes was there to report first-hand. The war in Afghanistan continues to receive steady coverage. And during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Stars reporters embedded with military units in Kuwait and Iraq, as well as on Navy ships in the region.

Stars and Stripes today is a multimedia news organization. The majority of Stars and Stripes unique reporting efforts is read now in digital form, either online at stripes.com or via mobile offerings for iPhone, Android and iPad, in over 200 countries around the world.

The print newspaper is still available for servicemembers, government civilians and their families in

Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific—and in contingency areas. Washington, D.C., hosts the Central office, where daily editions are transmitted to printers in Afghanistan, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Djibouti, as well as in Germany, Italy, UK, Japan, and South Korea. Stars and Stripes also publishes several weeklies (Stripes Guam, Japan, Korea and Okinawa), designed to serve the

needs of their respective military communities.

A U.S. edition comprised exclusively of Stars and Stripes reports from around the world now serves stateside forces and veterans. The U.S. edition is published in partnership with commercial newspaper publishers who serve communities with large military populations.



STARS AND STRIPES RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

2014 VFW News Media Award –
For outstanding contribution to a
better understanding of our
American way of life and its
institutions and interests by
honest and forthright reporting.

2013 Military Reporters
and Editors Awards –
Notable Narrative Winner
Recipient: Laura Rauch

2013 Best American Newspaper
Narrative Writing Contest –
Notable Narrative Winner
Recipient: Martin Kuz:
"Soldiers Recount Attack"

2013 National Headline Awards –
Second Place: News Series
(Forever After: A Warrior Wounded;
A Family Challenged)

2013 min Best of Web: Redesign –
Honorable Mention
Stripes UK website

2011 Military Photographer of the Year –
Honorable Mention
Recipient: Joshua DeMotts

2011 Sigma Delta Chi Award –
Breaking News Photography
(Newspaper Circulation 100,001+
or Affiliated Website/National
Magazine) Recipient: Laura Rauch:
"For those I love I will sacrifice"

2011 John Reagan "Tex" McCrary
Award for Excellence in Journalism –
Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation

2010 Military Reporters
and Editors Awards –
Overseas coverage
($< 100,000$ circulation)
Recipient: Jon Rabinoff

2010 National Headliner Awards –
First Place: Public Service (Forcing Change) –
Third Place: News Series
(Coming Home: The Men of Triple Deuce)

2009 George Polk Awards in Journalism –
George Polk Award for Military Reporting
Recipients: Charlie Reed, Leo Shane III
and Kevin Barton

2009 min Editorial & Design Awards –
Editorial Print /
Special Supplement: HEROES 2009;
Custom Publication Design: Stripes GAMER

2007 Military Reporters
and Editors Awards –
Overseas coverage ($< 100,000$ circulation)
Recipient: Monte Morin

2006 Military Reporters
and Editors Awards –
Overseas coverage
($< 100,000$ circulation)
Recipients: Monte Morin, Joe Giordano;
Honorable mention: Nancy Montgomery
Photography: Fred Zimmerman

2005 Military Reporters
and Editors Awards –
Overseas coverage
($< 100,000$ circulation)
Recipients: Steve Lewis
Photography: Terry Boyd

2004 American Legion Excellence in
Journalism Award –
Ground Truth Series

2003 Scripps Howard Foundation
National Journalism Award –
First Amendment, Finalist

SCOREBOARD

Sports
on AFN

Go to the American Forces
Network website for the most up-
to-date TV schedules.
myafn.net

Pro football

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	12	0	0	.800	459	296
y-Miami	8	7	0	.533	369	290
Buffalo	8	7	0	.533	326	280
N.Y. Jets	8	12	0	.200	246	377

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Indianapolis	10	5	0	.667	431	269
Jacksonville	13	2	0	.869	232	289
Tennessee	10	2	0	.833	244	411

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Cincinnati	10	5	0	.667	349	317
x-Pittsburgh	10	5	0	.667	403	317
Baltimore	9	6	0	.600	389	292
Cleveland	9	6	0	.600	297	317

West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Denver	11	7	0	.611	435	340
San Diego	9	6	0	.600	341	329
Kansas City	8	6	0	.533	374	274
Chicago	12	3	0	.800	239	405

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Dallas	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Philadelphia	9	6	0	.600	440	374
N.Y. Giants	6	9	0	.400	354	365
Washington	4	11	0	.267	294	394

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Carolina	6	6	0	.500	305	371
Atlanta	6	9	0	.400	378	383
New Orleans	6	9	0	.400	379	404
San Francisco	6	9	0	.400	379	404

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Detroit	11	7	0	.611	331	252
x-Green Bay	11	4	0	.733	456	328
Minnesota	6	6	0	.500	311	328
Chicago	10	3	0	.769	331	409

West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Seattle	11	4	0	.733	374	248
x-Arizona	11	4	0	.733	293	279
San Francisco	7	8	0	.467	293	365
St. Louis	6	9	0	.400	318	334

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Washington	11	6	0	.643	425	365
N.Y. Jets	11	6	0	.643	425	365
San Francisco	11	6	0	.643	425	365

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Washington	11	6	0	.643	425	365
N.Y. Jets	11	6	0	.643	425	365
San Francisco	11	6	0	.643	425	365

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Washington	11	6	0	.643	425	365
N.Y. Jets	11	6	0	.643	425	365
San Francisco	11	6	0	.643	425	365

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Washington	11	6	0	.643	425	365
N.Y. Jets	11	6	0	.643	425	365
San Francisco	11	6	0	.643	425	365

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Washington	11	6	0	.643	425	365
N.Y. Jets	11	6	0	.643	425	365
San Francisco	11	6	0	.643	425	365

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Washington	11	6	0	.643	425	365
N.Y. Jets	11	6	0	.643	425	365
San Francisco	11	6	0	.643	425	365

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Washington	11	6	0	.643	425	365
N.Y. Jets	11	6	0	.643	425	365
San Francisco	11	6	0	.643	425	365

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Washington	11	6	0	.643	425	365
N.Y. Jets	11	6	0	.643	425	365
San Francisco	11	6	0	.643	425	365

South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Jacksonville	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Atlanta	11	6	0	.643	425	365
Carolina	11	6	0	.643	425	365

College football

Bowl schedule

Saturday, Dec. 20
New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana-Lafayette 16, Nevada 3

Sunday, Dec. 21
Alamo Bowl
Utah 46, Colorado State 10

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Idaho 38, Western Michigan 24

Camel Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Monday, Dec. 22
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

San Diego Bowl
San Diego 38, San Diego State 10

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Alabama 38, Tennessee 24

Thursday, Dec. 25
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



SUE OSOROCK/AP

Kansas State head coach Bill Snyder watches his team from the sidelines earlier this season. In an era of Twitter and text message, the old-school notes that the 74-year-old coach Snyder sends out to opponents after every game stand out.

From the desk of Snyder

K-State coach still penning notes to players by hand

By DAVE SKRETTA
The Associated Press

MANHATTAN, Kan. — The letters come on Kansas State stationery, always written in purple, felt-tip pen. The scrawling handwriting is unmistakable, the looping letters clear and distinct.

Each is unique, though, tailored to a player who was injured. Perhaps had a great game.

In an era of Twitter and text messages and attention spans of 130 characters or less, the notes that Bill Snyder writes still stand out. They arrive shortly after games, usually offering his encouragement or expressing his admiration, regardless of the outcome.

He does not leave the job to an assistant. He does not have a secretary type them up. No, the long-time Kansas State coach spends a few minutes each week writing them himself.

"Well, I've got to do something," Snyder said with a wry grin. "You're in an office 24 hours a day, so you find something to do. But I do write a great deal of notes."

"It's to players that I believe performed well," he said, "to young people that I believe have

the right approach, the right attitude about their lives, about college football."

The 74-year-old coach had probably sent dozens if not hundreds before anybody besides the recipient ever became aware of them.

It wasn't until a few players posted their letters on Twitter that they became known.

"You've had a great year, Jace," read a letter that Snyder wrote a couple years ago to Texas Tech tight end Jace Amaro, who dislocated a rib during his game against Kansas State.

"Admire how hard you play and the innate toughness you display to help your team. Hope you weren't hurt badly on Saturday," Snyder wrote. "Wishing you and your teammates continued success, good fortune and health."

Amaro, now with the New York Jets, still has the letter at home.

"He just respects the guys he goes against," Amaro said.

Even if they beat Snyder's own team a staggering loss.

The Wildcats began the 2013 season as reigning Big 12 champions. But in their opener, lower-division North Dakota State rolled into town and beat them 24-21 in a major upset.

Their season in tatters, Snyder sat down and wrote to Bison quarterback Brock Jensen.

"I was truly impressed with you," the letter read. "You played so very well, virtually error free and with such poise. I wish you a great year and hope you achieve all you desire."

North Dakota State went on to win its third straight FCS national championship.

"That was our first game, arguably ruined their season right off the bat," Jensen said, "and yeah, for him, I'm sure it was hard writing that letter. But that's the kind of person he is. He isn't going to change whether it's a tough loss or maybe a loss that wasn't supposed to happen"

The Wildcats are busy preparing for UCLA in the Alamo Bowl on Jan. 2. It will be their fifth straight bowl game since Snyder returned from a brief retirement, and a chance to crack the 10-win mark for the ninth time in school history — all of those with Snyder on the sideline.

Regardless of the outcome, though, one thing is certain: Once the game is over, there will be a letter or two on Kansas State stationery on the way to California.

Rose: Last two Heisman winners set to collide in Pasadena

FROM BACK PAGE

The No. 2 Seminoles (13-0) and their 29-game winning streak are facing No. 3 Oregon (12-1), the betting favorites and Pac-12 champions. Florida State's hopes rest heavily on a standout game from Winston after an up-and-down season that left him unable to contend with Mariota for another Heisman.

Coach Jimbo Fisher isn't worried about his quarterback's ability — or about Winston's fitness to carry the weight of the latest allegations against him.

"I think it isn't for him as much for his family," Fisher said. "For his grandmother. For his mother. For his father. For his little brother. The people who are in your family, because they carry that burden with him. James compartmentalizes."

Indeed, Winston made no extensive comments about the latest step in the lengthy proceedings around the allegations against him. Winston was not arrested, and a local prosecutor already decided he didn't have enough evidence to charge Winston after a woman accused him of raping her in December 2012.

Appeals and civil suits are still possible, but the ruling likely means Winston is free to chase another title into the championship game Jan. 12, if the Seminoles beat Oregon. Winston also is expected to be a high pick in the upcoming NFL draft if he forgoes his final two seasons of eligibility next year.

"This whole season has been the same," Winston said. "Because I come here to play football, get my academics right, and I really wasn't focused on anything other than that."

The Seminoles have traveled cross-country for the second time in two seasons: Florida State beat Auburn for the BCS national championship on the same hallowed turf last January. Winston sees this game as more of a privilege than an advantage over the Ducks, who won the Rose Bowl three years ago and beat UCLA in the same stadium this season.



CHUCK BURTON/AP

Florida State quarterback Jameis Winston waves after the Seminoles won the ACC championship game against Georgia Tech in Charlotte, N.C. Winston says football is his "sanctuary" from his off-the-field troubles, and the Florida State quarterback is hoping he can stay there for two more games.

"We've been here before, and we get to play on that beautiful stadium again," Winston said. "That's a dream, kind of a football heaven for us. Our wide receivers and us love playing on that great grass. But at the end of the day, it's another football game. We're not thinking about last year. We're not thinking about the future."

Winston also declined to speculate on whether he'll enter the draft, or even whether

he plans to play baseball again for Florida State in the spring.

The quarterback is focused only on another big finish on his season — after he accomplished another big goal on Saturday.

"The main thing I'm trying to do is get me a smoked turkey leg and put some hot sauce on that bad boy and eat it," Winston said with a smile. "Because those things are good. I'm hungry."

Bowls on AFN



Liberty Bowl
Texas A&M vs. West Virginia
AFN-Sports
8 p.m. Monday CET
4 a.m. Tuesday JKT



Russell Athletic Bowl
Oklahoma vs. Clemson
AFN-Sports
11:30 p.m. Monday CET
7:30 a.m. Tuesday JKT



Texas Bowl
Arkansas vs. Texas
AFN-Sports
3 a.m. Tuesday CET
11 a.m. Tuesday JKT

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

USC holds off Nebraska rally

Trojans prevail in Holiday Bowl after blowing 18-point lead in 3rd quarter

By BERNIE WILSON
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — It wasn't until Nelson Agholor knocked down a desperation pass by Nebraska's Tommy Armstrong Jr. inside the 10 that Southern California coach Steve Sarkisian could exhale and celebrate.

After blowing most of an 18-point, third-quarter lead, the No. 24 Trojans beat No. 25 Nebraska 45-42 in a wild Holiday Bowl on Saturday night.

"Nelson made a heck of a play to go attack the football," first-year coach Sarkisian said. "You can only get burned so many times, I guess. Let's just get the ball on the ground. And that's kind of what I was hoping for."

Cody Kessler completed 23 of 39 passes for 321 yards and three touchdowns for USC (9-4), which was playing Nebraska (9-4) in a bowl game for the first time. "Adoree" Jackson scored on a 98-yard kickoff return and a 71-yard pass from Kessler. Javorius Allen gained 152 yards on 26 carries and scored on runs of 2 and 44 yards.

"We've been through a lot this year," Sarkisian said. "We had a couple of just excruciating losses, and to come out tonight and win at the very end, we always try to make it exciting. We make

it entertaining for everybody."

The most painful loss for USC this season came when Arizona State's Jaeden Strong caught Mike Bercovici's 46-yard desperation pass for a touchdown as time expired to give the Sun Devils a 38-34 victory in Los Angeles on Oct. 4. Three weeks later, Utah scored with eight seconds left to beat the Trojans 24-21 in Salt Lake City.

"I'm happy for these guys," Sarkisian said. "They work every day. That to me is a really cool sign of the character on this team of where we're headed and what we're doing, that we have people in our organization that work. As hard as it can get, as tough as it gets, we're at our best. That to me is just awesome."

"Our future is ridiculously bright."

The Trojans took a 45-27 lead after Kessler threw a 20-yard scoring pass to Bryce Dixon with 2:03 left in the third quarter.

Armstrong brought the Huskies back with a 65-yard touchdown pass to Jordan Westerkamp with 24 seconds left in the third quarter and then a 15-yard keeper with 6:52 left in the game. His 2-point conversion pass to Kenny Bell pulled Nebraska to 45-42.

USC held De'Mornay Pierson to a 1-yard gain on a pass from Armstrong on fourth-and-3 from



LENNY IONELZA/AP

Southern California safety Gerald Bowman knocks away a pass intended for Nebraska wide receiver Jordan Westerkamp during the first half of the Holiday Bowl on Saturday in San Diego.

the USC 31 with 2½ minutes left.

"The idea was we were going to go for it because we were just outside the envelope for our kicker," interim coach Barney Cotton said. "I'm glad that we had the opportunity to go for it at the end. We were probably three or four yards beyond where we needed to be for our kicker."

Nebraska fired coach Bo Pelini on Nov. 30. New coach Mike Riley watched from a skybox.

Armstrong completed 32 of 51 passes for 381 yards and three TDs, with one interception.

"In a close game, you have to respond and show up and do things the right way. I think that's

what I did that after the second quarter."

USC had 515 yards of total offense and Nebraska finished with 525.

Kessler tied the USC single-season record of 39 touchdown passes set by Matt Barkley in 2011.

Kessler had no idea he tied the record.

"That is completely irrelevant to me," Kessler said. "I'm not just saying that. I really do mean it. I've always put the team before me."

After Nebraska's Drew Brown kicked a 34-yard field goal early in the first quarter, Jackson

caught the kickoff at the 2 and ran it up the right sideline for the longest kickoff return in Holiday Bowl history.

His 71-yard TD on a catch-and-run came on the first play from scrimmage after Nebraska punted on its first possession of the second half. He caught a short pass from Kessler and weaved through defenders to give USC a 31-17 lead.

"They were everything we thought they would be," Cotton said. "They were physical, they were very skilled. They have a big-play offense. I thought it was a good battle out there. It could've gone either way at the end."

Arizona State extends Blue Devils' bowl drought

By JOHN ERFORT
The Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas — Duke was so close — again.

Close to putting an end to a bowl wilderness that dates to 1961. Close to consecutive 10-win seasons. Close to eliminating the bad memories from close bowl losses the previous two years.

The Blue Devils (9-4) even had battled back from a 17-point deficit to take a 31-30 lead over No. 15 Arizona State (10-3) late in the fourth quarter Saturday in the Sun Bowl.

"I thought we played well enough to win," Duke coach David Cutcliffe said.

However, once again the Blue Devils weren't able to finish it off and suffered a 36-31 loss to the Sun Devils before a crowd of 47,809 that included a horde of Duke supporters.

The critical blow came when Arizona State freshman Kalen Ballage returned a kickoff 96 yards to set up the winning score a play later.

"It felt great," Ballage said. "I told the seniors, 'I got to do something.' They helped me grow. That was going through my head. I really wanted to do that for them."

Ballage's big return came after Duke



VICTOR CALZADA/AP

Arizona State defenders Armand Perry, left, Lloyd Carrington, center left, and Jordan Simone, right, congratulate Kweishi Brown, center right, on Saturday after Brown's game-saving interception late in the fourth quarter of the Sun Bowl against Duke. Arizona State won 36-31.

(9-4) took the 31-30 lead — its first advantage of the game — on receiver Jamison Crowder's 12-yard touchdown pass to Isaac Blakeney with 5:03 left.

On the drive, punter Will Monday threw to a wide-open Johnell Barnes on fourth-and-

11 from the 50. Four plays later, Duke took the lead on the trick play on fourth-and-2. Crowder took a handoff from quarterback Anthony Boone on a sweep left and pulled up to throw to a wide-open Blakeney.

"That was one of the new plays we put in this week," Crowder said.

The right-handed Crowder made the pass with his left hand.

After Ballage's return, Demario Richard took a shovel pass from Taylor Kelly and bulled his way over the left side and into the end zone. Kelly was stopped on the 2-point conversion try.

The Blue Devils drove to the Arizona State 14 on nine plays, but Boone's third-and-10 pass intended for Crowder in the right corner of the end zone was intercepted by Kweishi Brown with 45 seconds left.

"He's one of the best receivers in the country," Boone said. "You've got to give him a shot."

Crowder, who will enter the NFL Draft, finished with seven catches for 102 yards in addition to his punt return for a score and TD pass.

Of the final Duke play, he said, "Their guy made a play and came down with it. It was a heartbreaking end for Duke."

"I felt we were very ready to play today," Cutcliffe said. "We shot ourselves in the foot

early. Unfortunately, we got in a position to win the game and didn't win it. If you give up a play in the kicking game, generally it will haunt you. I'm not dejected about the way we played or frustrated. I am sad we lost the ballgame because of our seniors."

In the other locker room, Arizona State coach Todd Graham and his team celebrated what he said was a season-defining victory.

"There was no way we were going to finish any other way than champions," Graham said. "That's the only way those seniors were going to finish was the way Pat Tillman finished — holding up that Sun Bowl trophy."

Richard, a freshman, was selected the game MVP. He scored four touchdowns for the Sun Devils and tied a Sun Bowl record for points with 24. Richard carried seven times for 41 yards and two scores, and caught five passes for 22 yards and two more touchdowns.

Duke cut it to 30-24 with 10:10 left in the fourth on Boone's 14-yard pass to Barnes.

Richard opened the scoring with a 9-yard run in the first quarter and gave the Sun Devils, who scored the first four times they had the ball, a 20-3 lead on a 1-yard run midway through the second.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Penn State edges BC in bowl return

By DAN GELSTON
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — At Yankee Stadium, Sam Ficken was Penn State's captain in the clutch.

Ficken used Derek Jeter's old locker, then showed No. 2 must have left behind some postseason kismet. He booted a walk-off winner deep into Monument Park, kicking the extra point in overtime that Boston College could not to give the Nittany Lions a 31-30 win in the Pinstripe Bowl on Saturday night.

Christian Hackenberg hit Kyle Carter for a 10-yard touchdown pass that set up Ficken's automatic kick that sent the Nittany Lions dancing on top of the Yankees' dugout.

"I couldn't have asked for a better ender for my career," Ficken said.

The Nittany Lions (7-6) played in a bowl game for the first time since January 2012 after the NCAA lifted the most severe sanctions levied against the program

in the wake of the Jerry Sandusky child sex abuse scandal.

Ficken sent the game into OT with a 45-yard field goal with 20 seconds left in regulation and won it with his extra point.

"He's probably been our best offensive weapon all year long," coach James Franklin said.

Tyler Murphy hit David Dudeck for a 21-yard touchdown pass on Boston College's drive. Mike Knoll shanked the extra point for the Eagles (7-6) and that was the opening Penn State needed to complete its comeback from a 21-7 deficit late in the third quarter.

"We lost a game we didn't need to lose," Boston College coach Steve Addazio said.

Penn State has played under the cloud of scandal and sanctions for the most of the last four years, tearing at the fabric of the community known as Happy Valley and tarnishing the legacy of Joe Paterno.

The Eagles left stunned after blowing the lead and missing their eighth extra point of the season.

S. Carolina holds off Miami in Independence

By DAVID BRANDT
The Associated Press

SHREVEPORT, La. — Post-season success continues to elude the Miami Hurricanes.

South Carolina beat Miami 24-21 on Saturday in the Independence Bowl, extending the Hurricanes' bowl losing streak to five games dating to 2006. The Gamecocks' Dylan Thompson threw for 294 yards and two touchdowns, and Pharoah Cooper, the game's offensive Most Valuable Player, caught nine passes for 170 yards and a touchdown.

It was another frustrating game for the Hurricanes (6-7), who lost four straight games to end the season.

"I'm not disappointed in our fight and resolve and the way the guys went after it," Miami coach Al Golden said. "Just disappointed in some of the execution and penalties we had that hampered us."

South Carolina (7-6) has won a school-record four straight bowl games.

Miami took a 6-0 lead and was completely controlling the game thanks to Duke Johnson, who

ran for 132 yards and caught five passes for 51 yards. South Carolina's offense, meanwhile, wasn't doing much of anything.

But in the middle of the second quarter, South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier decided to cut the passing game loose — even in cold and wet conditions.

"We're going to chuck it down the field and see what happens," Spurrier said.

The strategic change paid off immediately. Thompson hit Cooper on a long pass over the middle of the field and the 5-foot-11, 201-pound sophomore made a few more moves in the open field to finish off a 78-yard touchdown pass and give the Gamecocks a 7-6 lead.

South Carolina never trailed again. The Gamecocks scored 17 straight points to take a 17-6 half-time lead.

It was a satisfying ending to a disappointing season for the Gamecocks, who started the season with aspirations of competing for Southeastern Conference and national titles before quickly fading into mediocrity.



Nick Wass/AP

Virginia Tech running back J.C. Coleman, center, runs with the ball against Cincinnati on Saturday in the Military Bowl in Annapolis, Md. Virginia Tech won 33-17.

Hokies roll over Bearcats

Cincinnati QB Kiel injured during Military Bowl loss

By DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — As the ball came bouncing out of Gunner Kiel's hands, the Cincinnati quarterback — and any hope the Bearcats had of winning the Military Bowl — crashed hard onto the artificial turf.

A wozy Kiel left the game after the last of his three turnovers, and Cincinnati's season ended Saturday with a 33-17 loss to Virginia Tech.

Kiel exited in the third quarter during a play that essentially snapped the Bearcats' seven-game winning streak and assured Virginia Tech (7-6) a 22nd consecutive winning season.

Deon Clarke sacked Kiel and forced a fumble at the Cincinnati 43. Nigel Williams picked up the ball and fumbled at the 12, where teammate Greg Stroman scooped it up and took it into the end zone for a 27-10 lead.

Kiel remained down for several minutes and was helped off the field before being taken to the locker room. The 6-foot-4 sophomore did not return, and without him Cincinnati (9-4) had little chance to mount a comeback.

"He's been banged around pretty much this year. That was a good, clean lick," Bearcats coach Tommy Tuberville said. "I think his head hit the ground. This turf is not made for collisions like that. He's fine. He's a little dizzy and not very clear. He probably could have come back and done a few things, but further injury (at that point) is really not worth it."

With backup Munchie Legaux nursing a knee injury that will require surgery, Cincinnati turned to senior walk-on Michael Colosimo, who threw a touchdown pass but had too big a deficit to overcome against too good a team.

Kiel went 14-for-26 for 244 yards, but had two interceptions to go with his fumble. The Notre Dame transfer finished the season with 3,254 yards passing, the third-highest total in school history.

Michael Brewer went 14-for-24 for 94 yards and a touchdown to guide the Hokies to their highest point total since a 34-17 win at North Carolina on Oct. 4.

Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer worked in the upstairs coaching box to avoid the risk of infection during his recovery from throat surgery. The Hokies were making their 22nd consecutive bowl appearance under Beamer, whose last losing season at Tech was in 1992.

"I have had many proud moments in my time at Virginia Tech but this is one of my proudest," Beamer said. "When you consider the constant adversity we have had to endure this season, it is just rewarding that we believed in one another and continued to fight our way through it."

The Hokies opened the second half with a 75-yard drive for a touchdown and a 20-10 lead. J.C. Coleman opened the possession with four carries for 43 yards before Brewer tossed a TD pass to tight end Ryan Malleck on third-and-goal from the 1.

Minutes later, Kiel's fumble enabled the many Virginia Tech fans among the crowd of 34,277 to breathe easier.

Freshman Joey Slye kicked four field goals for the Hokies, who finally got a noteworthy victory to add to their upset at Ohio State on Sept. 6.

"We had two objectives that we wanted to accomplish today," Virginia Tech offensive coordinator Scot Loeffler said. "We wanted to win for our seniors, and we wanted to win for Coach Beamer."

**Shopping for Tires
Has Never Been Easier!**

At tiresrack.com we give you all the tools you'll need to purchase the right tire at the right price...no matter what you drive.

If you need help finding the best tire for you, our **TIRE DECISION GUIDE** is a quick, question-and-answer session designed to guide you to the tire performance category that accurately fits your needs.

PIRELLI SUMITOMO YOKOHAMA Firestone
DUNLOP BRIDGESTONE
GENERAL
Get APO/FPD shipping quotes at tiresrack.com!

7101 Vorden Parkway South Bend, IN 46628
574-287-2345 ©2012 Tire Rack

The Nets' Kevin Garnett, right, reacts after being shoved by the Pacers' David West during the first half Saturday in New York. West was charged with a technical foul after Garnett blew in his ear.

Pacers snap Nets' streak at 3 wins

(Green 8). Assists—Minnesota 29 (LaVine 14), Golden State 32 (Curry, Green 6). Total Fouls—Minnesota 18, Golden State 21. A—19,596 (19,596).

NHL

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Tampa Bay	37	22	11	4	48	119	97		
Detroit	36	19	8	9	47	103	89		
Montreal	37	22	11	4	46	118	97		
Toronto	35	20	12	3	43	118	102		
Pittsburgh	36	18	15	3	39	93	97		
Florida	32	15	9	8	38	73	82		
Ottawa	35	14	14	7	35	92	97		
Buffalo	36	14	14	8	31	113	118		
Metropolitan Division									
Pittsburgh	37	22	11	4	48	108	83		
N.Y. Islanders	35	23	11	1	47	108	98		
N.Y. Rangers	33	19	10	4	42	100	84		
Washington	35	18	11	6	42	102	90		
Philadelphia	37	14	15	6	34	98	105		
Minnesota	34	15	10	9	33	105	109		
New Jersey	35	12	18	7	31	79	107		
Carolina	35	10	21	4	24	71	95		

Western Conference

Central Division									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Chicago	36	24	10	2	50	112	74		
Nashville	34	22	9	2	48	99	81		
St. Louis	35	18	11	6	42	103	90		
Winnipeg	36	19	10	7	45	92	84		
Minnesota	35	16	12	7	39	99	91		
Dallas	34	15	14	5	35	106	96		
Colorado	35	13	14	8	34	92	106		
Pacific Division									
Anaheim	37	22	8	7	43	105	100		
Los Angeles	36	21	11	4	43	109	89		
San Jose	36	19	12	5	43	100	90		
Vancouver	37	16	12	9	39	99	91		
Calgary	37	19	15	3	41	108	99		
Edmonton	36	18	14	4	40	113	103		
San Jose	36	7	22	7	21	76	125		

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

No games scheduled
No Friday games
 Saturday's games
 Buffalo, A.N.Y. Islanders 3, SO
 Detroit 3, Ottawa 2, OT
 Minnesota 2, Carolina 1
 N.Y. Rangers 3, New Jersey 1
 St. Louis 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Winnipeg 4, Minnesota 3, OT
 Washington 3, Pittsburgh 0
 Chicago 4, St. Louis 1
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Sunday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Monday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Tuesday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Wednesday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Thursday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Friday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Saturday's games
 Buffalo, A.N.Y. Islanders 3, SO
 Detroit 3, Ottawa 2, OT
 Minnesota 2, Carolina 1
 N.Y. Rangers 3, New Jersey 1
 St. Louis 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Winnipeg 4, Minnesota 3, OT
 Washington 3, Pittsburgh 0
 Chicago 4, St. Louis 1
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Sunday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Monday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Tuesday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Wednesday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Thursday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Friday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Saturday's games
 Buffalo, A.N.Y. Islanders 3, SO
 Detroit 3, Ottawa 2, OT
 Minnesota 2, Carolina 1
 N.Y. Rangers 3, New Jersey 1
 St. Louis 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Winnipeg 4, Minnesota 3, OT
 Washington 3, Pittsburgh 0
 Chicago 4, St. Louis 1
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Sunday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Monday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Tuesday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Wednesday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Thursday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Friday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Saturday's games
 Buffalo, A.N.Y. Islanders 3, SO
 Detroit 3, Ottawa 2, OT
 Minnesota 2, Carolina 1
 N.Y. Rangers 3, New Jersey 1
 St. Louis 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Winnipeg 4, Minnesota 3, OT
 Washington 3, Pittsburgh 0
 Chicago 4, St. Louis 1
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Sunday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Monday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Tuesday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Wednesday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Thursday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Friday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Saturday's games
 Buffalo, A.N.Y. Islanders 3, SO
 Detroit 3, Ottawa 2, OT
 Minnesota 2, Carolina 1
 N.Y. Rangers 3, New Jersey 1
 St. Louis 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Winnipeg 4, Minnesota 3, OT
 Washington 3, Pittsburgh 0
 Chicago 4, St. Louis 1
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Sunday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Monday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Tuesday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Wednesday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Thursday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Friday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Saturday's games
 Buffalo, A.N.Y. Islanders 3, SO
 Detroit 3, Ottawa 2, OT
 Minnesota 2, Carolina 1
 N.Y. Rangers 3, New Jersey 1
 St. Louis 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Winnipeg 4, Minnesota 3, OT
 Washington 3, Pittsburgh 0
 Chicago 4, St. Louis 1
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Sunday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Monday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Tuesday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1

Wednesday's games
 Toronto at Anaheim
Thursday's games
 Detroit at New Jersey
 Washington at N.Y. Islanders
 Buffalo at Carolina
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Minnesota at Winnipeg
 Nashville at Chicago
 N.Y. Rangers at Dallas
 Los Angeles at Calgary
 Philadelphia at Arizona

Friday's games
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay
 Colorado at St. Louis
 Nashville 4, Philadelphia 1
 Chicago 4, Colorado 1
 Calgary 4, Edmonton 1
 Los Angeles 3, San Jose 1



JOE MANHORN/AP

Blackhawks goalie Corey Crawford blocks a shot by Avalanche left wing Alex Tanguay on Saturday in Denver. Crawford made 23 saves in Chicago's 5-2 victory.

Blue Jackets 6, Bruins 2

First Period—1, Columbus, Hartnell 7 (Rimh, Chabot, 8:31).
Second Period—3, Columbus, Hartnell 8 (Wieniewski, Connolly), 3:1, Columbus, Connolly 4 (Calvert, Dubinsky), 6:22. 5, Columbus, Foligno 10 (Johnson, Johansen), 9:26 (pp), 10:28, Cunniffman 6 (Carmichael, Paille), 16:28. 7, Columbus, Calvert 4, 19:08.
Third Period—8, Columbus, Morin 1 (Johnson, Dubinsky), 7:28.
Shots on Goal—Boston 7-10-9-28. Columbus 11-11-8-30.

Power-play opportunities—Boston 0 of 2; Columbus 1 of 2.
Goals—Boston, Svedberg 4-5-0 (15 shots-12 saves), Rak 6-2 (second, 15-12), Columbus, McElhinney 2-6-1 (28-26).
 A-16,795 (18,144). T-2:31.

Coyotes 2, Ducks 1 (SO)

First Period—1, Anaheim, Bourque 2 (Getzlaf, Smith-Pelly), 9:16. 2, Arizona, Michalek 1 (Erat, Gagner), 10:29.
Second Period—Anaheim 0 (Heatley NG, Silfverberg NG, Kessel NG, Getzlaf NG), Arizona 1 (Boecker NG, Gagner NG, Vermette NG), 10:29.
Shots on Goal—Anaheim 9-9-17-36. Arizona 9-10-8-27.
Power-play opportunities—Anaheim 0 of 1; Arizona 0 of 1.
Goals—Anaheim, Andersen 19-5-5 (29 shots-28 saves), Arizona, Dubnyk 8-3-2 (30).
 A-13,696 (17,125). T-2:36.

Jets 4, Wild 3 (OT)

First Period—1, Minnesota, Granlund 4 (Pominville), 16:03.
Second Period—2, Winnipeg, Little 14 (Lid, Clifton), 7:17.
Third Period—3, Winnipeg, Lowry 5 (Kane, Haleschuk), 15:52. 4, Minnesota, Lindorff 8 (Blecker, Grantlund), 10:38. 5, Winnipeg, Wheeler 11 (Kane, Byggfjell), 12:09 (sh). 6, Minnesota, Vaneck 6 (Spurgeon, Scandellio), 12:41 (pp).
Shots on Goal—Winnipeg 7-8-7-21. Minnesota 8-8-8-25.
Power-play opportunities—Winnipeg 0 of 2; Minnesota 0 of 2.
Goals—Winnipeg, Hutchinson 9-2-2 (25 shots-22 saves), Minnesota, Curry 0-1 (23-19).
 A-19,177 (17,954). T-2:43.

Lightning 2, Hurricanes 1

First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Kucherov 15 (Palat), 8:50.
Second Period—2, Tampa Bay, Killorn 8 (Callahan, Filopula), 4:53. 3, Carolina, Seane, 11:04. 6, Minnesota, Vaneck 6 (Spurgeon, Scandellio), 12:41 (pp).
Shots on Goal—Carolina 9-11-26. Tampa Bay 12-12-14-38.
Power-play opportunities—Carolina 0 of 3; Tampa Bay 0 of 6.
Goals—Carolina, Ward 9-13-32 (38 shots-36 saves), Tampa Bay, B. Bishop 17-6-2 (38).
 A-19,204 (19,204). T-2:29.

Blackhawks 5, Avalanche 2

First Period—1, Colorado, MacKinnon 6 (Tobias), 6:56. 2, Chicago, Saad 8 (Toews), 7:27. 3, Colorado, Johnson 10 (O'Reilly, Versteeg), 16:19.
Second Period—1, Chicago, Seabrook 7 (Burdick, Hossa), 13:14 (pp).
Third Period—8, Chicago, Sharp 6 (Toews, Kane), 8:14 (pp), 7, Chicago, Kane 18 (5 Smith), 19:54 (pp).
Shots on Goal—Chicago 9-13-31-33. Colorado 6-11-25.
Power-play opportunities—Chicago 2 of 2; Colorado 0 of 2.
Goals—Chicago, Crawford 13-6-2 (25 shots-23 saves), Colorado, Pickard 6-2 (32-28).
 A-18,085 (18,007). T-2:27.

Stars 4, Blues 3

First Period—1, Dallas, Moen 1 (Hocutt, Jo.Benn), 2:08. 2, St. Louis, Pietrangolo 4 (Stastny, Jaskin), 2:59. 3, Dallas, Garbutt 6, 14:46. 4, St. Louis, Taranenko 21 (Steen, Shattenkirk), 16:10 (pp).
Second Period—5, Dallas, Daley 8 (Sequin, Lehtonen), 7:41 (pp), 6, Dallas, Demers 2 (E.Cole, Schiavolino), 19:12 (pp).
Third Period—6, St. Louis, Backes 9 (Bouwmeester, Osewiler), 8:40.
Shots on Goal—Dallas 9-10-5-24. St. Louis 11-10-12-33.
Power-play opportunities—Dallas 2 of 5; St. Louis 1 of 4.
Goals—Dallas, Lehtonen 14-5-5 (33 shots-30 saves), St. Louis, Allen 11-3-3 (27-20).
 A-19,683 (19,150). T-2:40.

Red Wings 3, Senators 2 (OT)

First Period—1, Ottawa, Hoffman 1 (Borowiecki, Ryan), 13:41. 2, Detroit, Abolmagedhin (Preston, Kronwall), 19:46.
Second Period—3, Ottawa, MacArthur 10, 13:16.
Third Period—4, Detroit, Zetterberg 8 (Kronwall, Datsyuk), 3:58 (pp).
Shots on Goal—Detroit, Howard 14-5-7 (33 shots-31 saves), Ottawa, Anderson 8-9-35 (24-20).
Power-play opportunities—Detroit 1 of 3; Ottawa 0 of 5.
Goals—Detroit, Howard 14-5-7 (33 shots-31 saves), Ottawa, Anderson 8-9-35 (24-20).
 A-17,194 (19,153). T-2:31.

Sabres 4, Islanders 3 (SO)

First Period—1, N.Y. Islanders, Leddy 6 (Koproski, Jo.Bailey), 4:33.
Second Period—2, N.Y. Islanders, Tavares 14, 11:56. 3, N.Y. Islanders, Tavares 15 (Jo.Bailey, Oposso), 15:05.
Third Period—4, Buffalo, Deslauriers 4 (Stafford, Gorenz), 6:39. 5, Buffalo, Girgensons 19 (Deslauriers, Gorenz), 16:01 (sh). 6, Buffalo, Stewart 5 (Stafford, Kale, 11:51).
Shots on Goal—N.Y. Islanders 0 (Koproski, Moen NG, Deslauriers NG, Girgensons NG), Buffalo 9-15-27. Islanders 9-10-14.
Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Islanders 0 of 2; Buffalo 0 of 2.
Goals—N.Y. Islanders, Poulin 0-0-1 (25 shots-23 saves), Buffalo, Enroth 11-11-32 (36-33).
 A-19,070 (19,070). T-2:37.

Flames 4, Oilers 1

First Period—1, Calgary, Colborne 1 (Byron, Glenorech), 7:08. 2, Calgary, Saurdrou 11, 8:32. 3, Calgary, Gaudreau 12 (Hudler, Brodeur), 8:48.
Second Period—4, Edmonton, Nugent-Hopkins 10 (Schultz, Ference), 4:23. 5, Calgary, Glenorech 7 (Stajan, Giordano), 10:17.
Shots on Goal—Edmonton 17-17-27. Calgary 9-15-27.
Power-play opportunities—Edmonton 0 of 5; Calgary 0 of 5.
Goals—Edmonton, Fast 2-9-2 (6 shots-3 saves), Scrivens 16-48 (first, 21-20). Calgary, Hiller 11-10-27 (27-20).
 A-19,289 (19,289). T-2:37.

Kings 3, Sharks 1

First Period—1, San Jose, Pavelski 17 (Thornton), 2:39. 2, Los Angeles, Toffoli 11 (McLewin), 14:40.
Second Period—4, Los Angeles, Kopitar 8 (Gaborik, Carter), 10:13 (pp).
Third Period—4, Los Angeles, Muzzin 4 (Doughty, Kopitar), 3:18 (pp).
Shots on Goal—San Jose 9-9-22. Los Angeles 12-12-25.
Power-play opportunities—San Jose 0 of 2; Los Angeles 2 of 4.
Goals—San Jose, Niemi 14-8-14 (29 shots-23 saves), Los Angeles, Quick 15-6 (22-21).
 A-18,451 (18,118). T-2:24.

Roundup

Stefan's three power Rangers past the Devils

Red Wings 3, Senators 2 (OT):

Gustav Nyquist scored at 4:12 of overtime to lift Detroit to a win over host Ottawa.

Jets 4, Wild 3 (OT):

Ladd scored a fluky goal in overtime and visiting Winnipeg beat Minnesota.

Capitals 3, Penguins 0:

Goal-tender Braden Holtby stopped 31 shots and Eric Fehr scored two goals as Washington defeated host Pittsburgh.

Blackhawks 5, Avalanche 2:

Patrick Kane scored twice and Corey Crawford stopped 23 shots, lifting Chicago to a win over host Colorado.

Predators 4, Flyers 1:

Colin Wilson scored two goals to lead host Nashville to a win over Philadelphia.

Stars 4, Blues 3:

Dallas seized control with power-play goals from Trevor Daley and Jason Demers in the second period and held on to beat host St. Louis.

Coyotes 2, Ducks 1 (SO):

Shane Doan scored the only goal in the shootout with a broken stick, Devan Dubnyk stopped 36 shots, and host Phoenix topped Anaheim.

Flames 4, Oilers 1:

Rookie Johnny Gaudreau continued his torrid scoring with two goals to lead host Calgary over Edmonton.

Kings 3, Sharks 1:

Anze Kober and Jake Muzzin scored power-play goals, Jonathan Quick made 21 saves and Los Angeles returned from the holiday break with a win over visiting San Jose.

Lightning 2, Hurricanes 1:

Bishop, who had missed the previous four games due to a lower body injury, made 25 saves in his return and host Tampa beat Carolina.

Blades 4, Islanders 3 (SO):

Buffalo scored three goals in the third period to overcome a 3-0 deficit and Tyler Ennis scored in the shootout to give the

COLLEGE BASKETBALL/SPORTS BRIEFS

Top 25 roundup

No. 1 Kentucky pushes back Louisville

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — There were moments when top-ranked Kentucky could have blinked against No. 4 Louisville with its veterans battling second-half foul trouble and shooting woes.

The Wildcats didn't because freshman guard Tyler Ulis stepped up with a career-best 14-point performance made more impressive by the fact he achieved it despite a bandaged right eye that made blinking difficult.

"I was more excited than nervous because it was my first away game," said Ulis, who shook off a bloody cut to score 12 key second-half points and lead the Wildcats to a hard-fought 58-50 victory over the Cardinals on Saturday.

"Being a freshman, I just wanted to see what the atmosphere felt like."

Ulis received three stitches above the eye afterward from the inadvertent elbow from Louisville's Chris Jones in the first half. He returned with an effort that not only helped Kentucky claim Bluegrass State bragging rights, but possibly clear its biggest hurdle toward an unbeaten season.

"We're not going to think about it," center Dakari Johnson said of that prospect. "We're just going to take one game at a time."

Karl-Anthony Towns had 10 points and 11 rebounds, while Devin Booker added nine points for Kentucky, which held Louisville (11-1) to 26 percent shoot-



TIMOTHY D. EASLEY/AP

Louisville's Montrezl Harrell, left, leans in on the defense of Kentucky's Aaron Harrison during the first half Saturday in Louisville, Ky. No. 1 Kentucky beat its in-state rival 58-50.

ing in a game defined by defense until the freshmen started making their shots.

They ended up scoring 39 points with the 5-foot-9 Ulis setting the second-half tone with two big three-pointers to give the Wildcats (13-0) a cushion.

His play was no surprise to fellow freshman Booker, who said, "Well, everybody's seen it. He's incredible. He's showing people

— you guys — things you haven't seen out of him before, but I've seen it because we've played on camps and teams all the time, so it's nothing new to me. He's a real special player."

They Lyles added nine rebounds for the Wildcats, who out-rebounded Louisville 46-33.

The poised play by Kentucky's heralded freshmen basically answered the question of how they

would handle a hostile atmosphere in their first true road test before 22,812. The Wildcats also provided another example of how their length and depth can wear down an opponent.

No. 8 Gonzaga 87, BYU 80: Kyle Wiltjer scored 24 points and Kevin Pangos had 21 points and seven assists, leading Gonzaga to a win over host Brigham Young in the West Coast Conference open-

er for both teams.

Byron Wesley had 15 points and 10 rebounds for the Bulldogs (12-1, 1-0). Przemek Karnowski added nine points and 10 boards.

No. 15 Maryland 72, Oakland 56: Jake Layman had 15 points and 12 rebounds to help No. 15 Maryland extend its winning streak to five games with a victory over visiting Oakland.

Dez Wells, the Terrapins' scoring leader the past two seasons, was back in the lineup after missing the past seven games with a broken right wrist. Wells came off the bench and finished with 10 points.

No. 20 North Carolina 89, UAB 58: Marcus Paige scored 16 points to lead host North Carolina.

Kennedy Meeks added 14 points and Justin Jackson had 13 for the Tar Heels (9-3), who never trailed and led by as many as 36 while shooting 50 percent.

No. 21 Ohio St. 100, Wright St. 55: D'Angelo Russell scored 24 points on a stellar shooting night and Amir Williams added a career-high 21 to lead host Ohio State past Wright State.

No. 24 Colorado St. 58, New Mexico St. 57 (OT): J.J. Avila made a go-ahead layup with 31 seconds left in overtime in Colorado State's victory. Avila led visiting Colorado State (13-0) with 19 points, and Stanton Kidd had 13. The Rams are off to the best start in school history.

Briefly

Cubs' Castro questioned in Dominican shooting

The Associated Press

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — Authorities in the Dominican Republic questioned Chicago Cubs shortstop Starlin Castro after a nightclub shooting Saturday morning in which several people were injured.

Police spokesman Jacobo Mateo said Castro was one of six people initially detained and has been released. He said police searched Castro's house and that the investigation is ongoing.

Paul Kinzer, Castro's agent, said his client went to the police on his accord to make sure they knew he wasn't involved.

"They said they had video and they knew he wasn't involved," Kinzer said.

The shooting occurred in the northwest province of Montecristi, where the 24-year-old Castro is from. Mateo said at least four people were treated at a hospital for injuries.

Police are investigating allegations that the shooting occurred after an argument between Castro's brother and the assistant of a government official.

Castro said at a news conference earlier this month that he had already left a club when a different shooting occurred and was not involved in it.

Kinzer said Castro had spoken with the Cubs and "they aren't happy his name is

involved" again. The 24-year-old Castro hit .292 with 14 homers and 65 RBIs in 134 games last season.

Ganong gets first Cup victory

SANTA CATERINA, Italy — Skiing on a hill he hasn't seen before usually gets Travis Ganong fired up.

Racing the downhill on a new slope to the men's World Cup circuit certainly brought the best out of the American skier on Sunday.

A flawless run on the Deborah Compagnoni course earned Ganong his first World Cup victory, less than six weeks before his home world championship race in Beaver Creek.

"First World Cup win!!!! Stoked to be able to say that!!!" Ganong posted on Twitter.

"I love to take on a new challenge and a new slope," said Ganong, a Squaw Valley, Calif., native. "I love the hill, the mountains are huge here and it's fun skiing."

It's the second downhill win in a row for the U.S. team and the second in Italy after Steven Nyman's triumph in Val Gardena last week. The last American back-to-back downhill wins dated from the 2007-08 season when Bode Miller won in Bormio and Wengen.

Ganong finished the race in 1 minute,

32.42 seconds to beat Olympic champion Matthias Mayer of Austria by 0.09 and Dominik Paris of Italy by 0.21.

Ganong called his effort "a perfect run."

In other skiing news:

■ Swedish skier Sara Hector upset all pre-race favorites to win a women's World Cup giant slalom Sunday in Kuehtai, Austria for her first career victory.

Hector finished in 2 minutes, 17.61 seconds to beat Anna Fenninger of Austria by 0.09 seconds.

American teen Mikaela Shiffrin, who led after the opening run, came 0.18 behind in third.

Lynch fined \$11,050 for grab

NEW YORK — Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch has been fined \$11,050 by the NFL for an inappropriate gesture while scoring a touchdown against Arizona last Sunday night.

Lynch appeared to grab at his groin as he leaped into the end zone to cap a 79-yard TD run while scoring a touchdown in the fourth quarter of Seattle's 35-6 victory.

Sam not giving up on NFL

ST. LOUIS — Michael Sam dismissed the thought that his sexuality has cost him



ALESSANDRO TROVATI/AP

Travis Ganong celebrates after winning his first World Cup downhill in Santa Caterina Valfurva, Italy, on Sunday.

a spot in the NFL.

"I don't like to think that way," Sam said in an Oprah Winfrey Network documentary that aired Saturday night. "But I do believe I'm a very talented football player and I'm going to continue working hard and try to get that opportunity to play in the league."

The first openly gay player drafted in the NFL has no regrets.

NFL



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Broncos running back C.J. Anderson eyes the goal line on a 1-yard touchdown run on Monday against the Bengals in Cincinnati. Anderson was testy with reporters after the game, which Denver lost.

Denver's Anderson apologizes, says behavior out of character

By ARNIE STAPLETON
The Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — C.J. Anderson says he's not the running back that people saw at Cincinnati. After Denver's 37-28 loss to the Bengals on Monday night, the Broncos' breakout running back dodged questions like fellow University of Cal alum Marshawn Lynch is famous for doing.

Anderson ignored reporters' questions and testily replied to five straight inquiries with a version of, "We just played terrible. We've got to get better and get ready for next week."

It was a rare breakdown for Anderson, an undrafted second-year pro who has emerged as Denver's top tailback this season. He's topped 1,000 yards from scrimmage and scored seven times despite not starting until injuries to Montee Ball and Ronnie Hillman thrust him into a bigger role at midseason.

After cooling down, he took to Twitter on Tuesday, saying, "I apologize 4 my actions toward the media yesterday. I was very frustrated in the way I played. I'm not that type of guy."

"Like I said, a lot of you guys probably thought I played well, but I played terrible. That is why I was really upset."

C.J. Anderson
Broncos RB

Then he repeated his apology in the locker room this week, saying, "I was frustrated in my play and I should have told you guys to come talk to me 10 minutes later. I just had a heated argument prior to that and I was just upset and very angry. I wear my emotions on my sleeve because that is the type of player I am."

"I'm not that type of guy and I don't want to be compared to this person or that person. I should have never done that and I just want to apologize to every-

body over here because I know you guys have got a job to do. But that is behind me, I've learned from that and I'm open and I've moved on to Oakland."

Anderson actually had a pretty good game, rushing for 83 yards and a touchdown on 18 carries for a 4.6-yard average. He also caught eight passes for 55 yards, befitting his status of being voted a Pro Bowl alternate this week.

What his family members wanted to talk about after the game, however, wasn't his statistics but his sullenness.

"My mom and my grandma raised me a lot better than that and you shouldn't disrespect someone else's job because of what you're going through," Anderson said. "At the end of the day, you have to take the good with the bad and you have to be a professional. Like I said, a lot of you guys probably thought I played well, but I played terrible. That is why I was really upset."

Anderson said he let down his offensive linemen by failing to trust them after some difficult runs that went for no gain or negative yards, "and I shouldn't have done that."

His harsh self-assessment of his last game notwithstanding, Anderson has helped the Broncos (11-4) find a much-needed ground game as they head into the playoffs. They can earn a first-round bye Sunday by beating Oakland (3-12).

Anderson got his opportunity when Hillman strained his left foot at St. Louis on Nov. 9. Hillman appears ready to return against the Raiders after practicing all week for the first time since getting hurt. He would give the Broncos an added boost by providing a change-of-pace back to go with the bruising Anderson.

"He has good burst, good explosion, same things that you saw before the injury," coach John Fox said Friday. "He looks to be back in that form. We will see how it goes. He hasn't played football in about six weeks, so you always get a little nervous about that. But he had a good week of preparation."

Browns suspend Gordon for finale

Talented, troubled WR missed walk-through; lost game will keep him from free agency

By TOM WITHERS
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Josh Gordon will end his troubled season just as it began — suspended.

The Browns' enigmatic wide receiver was suspended Saturday for missing a team walk-through and will miss the finale in Baltimore. Gordon, who led the NFL in yards receiving last season, served a 10-game suspension for repeated drug violations earlier this year.

A person familiar with the situation said Gordon was suspended for not showing up at a walk-through in Berea before the team flew to Baltimore. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because the team has not disclosed the reason for Gordon's punishment.

Gordon's absence wasn't the only issue for the Browns.

Rookie quarterback Johnny Manziel was late for medical treatment on his injured hamstring, the person said. The Browns typically fine any player who is tardy for meetings or treatment on injuries. Manziel was placed on injured reserve this week after making two starts. The former Heisman Trophy winner is with the team for the season's final game.

Earlier this week, Manziel acknowledged he should have worked harder during his first NFL season.

"I'm not the Johnny Manziel that came in here a year ago," he said. "It's been a year of growing up for me. This is a job for me now. I have to take this a lot more seriously than maybe I did at first still going home and doing whatever I was doing in the offseason."

The Browns issued a statement about Gordon's suspension, but did not mention Manziel, whose unapologetic stance about his offseason partying raised questions

about his commitment. Manziel said this week he wants to be "the guy" for the Browns, who traded up in the first round to select him in May's draft.

Manziel didn't show much on the field during his brief playing time, and the Browns have to wonder if he can stabilize a problematic position.

Gordon's latest misstep has put his future with the Browns in jeopardy.

He amassed 1,646 yards receiving last season despite being suspended for the first two games for violating the league's substance abuse policy. He claimed he failed the drug test for a cocaine-laced prescription cough medicine.

Since returning from his league ban this year, Gordon had caught 24 passes for 303 yards. But he also has run the wrong pass routes and has caught just nine passes in the past three games, and he has no touchdowns after scoring nine last season.

And now the Browns may have reached a breaking point with him. They provided support for Gordon during his suspension and hoped that he would mature and fulfill his potential.

Because he didn't reach six games, Gordon will not be able to count this season toward free agency. He won't be eligible for unrestricted free agency when his current contract runs out after the 2015 season.

The Browns considered trading Gordon before the deadline last year but didn't want to give up on him for anything less than a first-round draft pick.

The team had filled Gordon's roster spot by promoting receiver Phil Bates from the practice squad. However, the team announced Saturday night that Bates did not travel with the team.



BILL WIPPERT/AP

Cleveland Browns wide receiver Josh Gordon was suspended by the team on Saturday for a violation of team rules one day before the season finale at Baltimore.

SPORTS



Holiday cheer

Trojans hold off Cornhuskers rally in Holiday Bowl | **Page 26**

Florida State quarterback Jameis Winston walks off the field as fireworks explode behind him last month. With his off-field troubles seemingly behind him, Winston is ready to lead the No. 2 Seminoles in their quest for a second straight national title.

STEPHEN M. DOWELL/TNS



Showtime

Winston finds his 'sanctuary' at Rose Bowl

By GREG BEACHAM
The Associated Press

The clouds of Jameis Winston's off-the-field troubles have cleared for now, and the Florida State quarterback emerged in the dazzling Southern California sun on Saturday firmly focused on his quest for a second national title.

In his first public appearance since he was cleared of violating Florida State's student code of conduct, the 2013 Heisman Trophy winner claimed he is neither distracted nor relieved by the latest devel-

	101st Rose Bowl	
	Florida State (13-0) vs. Oregon (12-1)	
	AFN-Sports	
	11:10 p.m. Thursday CET 7:10 a.m. Friday JKT	

opment surrounding an alleged sexual assault two years ago.

"I really don't focus on that," Winston said. "I usually just use football as my sanctuary, and I focus on my academics and do the things I need to do."

Winston certainly found his happy place on Sat-

urday. Winston and fellow Heisman winner Marcus Mariota joined their teammates and Mickey Mouse at the Disney California Adventure park to kick off the festivities around the 101st Rose Bowl, which is also a College Football Playoff semifinal this year.

SEE ROSE ON PAGE 25